



SOCCER ACTION

JUGOSLOVENSKA
SCENA:15

VIVA ITALIA:14

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ
ΣΕΛΙΣ:15

REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST PUBLICATION NO V8P0351

Vol. 9, No. 4 WEDNESDAY, 22 FEBRUARY, 1984

603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Phone: (03) 605 4257/58 (editorial)
(03) 605 4259 (advertising)

\$1.10 recommended price only



Marjan Kovacic



Alex Kovacic

Victoria may get Kovacic

By
Kornel
Kampan

Marjan and Alex Kovacic are set to leave Sydney Croatia on the eve of the N.S.L. As we went to press, Marjan was negotiating with Melbourne Croatia. He is transfer listed at \$20,000.

Melbourne Croatia spokesman Frank Burin said: "I have spoken with Marjan and he is interested in joining us, providing a few problems can be overcome. For example, he has a good job

CROATIA, AJAX LOSING STARS

as a graphic designer, and would want something similar in Melbourne. We certainly would love to sign him."

Sydney Croatia coach Attila Abonyi said: "I am very disappointed to lose Marjan and Alex but they could not come to terms with the club. They were very firm in their decision and I sent the transfer request to the Soccer Federation."

Otherwise Abonyi is sat-

isfied with the progress of Sydney Croatia.

"At the end of the season we'll see how good we are," he said. "I can make one statement though, and it is that Steve Watson is the best goalkeeper in the country and I am pleased to have him."

But the imminent departure of the Kovacic brothers, especially Marjan who has been the club's best player for years, has shocked Croatia's fans.

"I am leaving the club

because of a matter of principle and money."

Marjan said: "I have been at the club for nine years but the budget at the club allowed for a payment of only \$2,000 which I consider too low. I don't hold any grudges against the people at the club but I would rather consider premature retirement than staying under those terms."

Marjan confirmed that he had obtained an offer from Melbourne Croatia.

"I am interested in

moving to Melbourne as long as I can play in the N.S.L. At 26 I can still offer a lot of service."

"I am bitter, though, that Alex, who is only 23, never got a fair chance from Croatia. He has made a tremendous recovery after breaking a leg one year ago but they keep treating him as a boy, always asking him to start from scratch, and they give him little chance of establishing himself. He is transfer-listed at \$8,000," said Kovacic.

Peter Boyle set to join Fawkner

By
LAURIE
SCHWAB

Peter Boyle and Jimmy Rooney both have been champions in their own right — but apparently they don't see eye to eye.

Rooney, new coach of Green Gully Ajax, told Boyle before a ball was kicked in 1984, that Boyle would be struggling to get a game in the mid-field Rooney envisaged.

Boyle immediately went to the Ajax committee and asked it to reduce his transfer fee maximum of \$9000, as he feared that price could put him out of the game.

The committee decided that the \$9000 would apply only if Boyle went to an NSL club, but that it would be reduced to \$4000 negotiable if he transferred to the State League.

Boyle didn't want to leave Ajax. "I've enjoyed it tremendously here," his contract was up, but although the club had exercised an option on him, he felt that if Rooney didn't want him, he may as well move.

Former Ajax team mate Gus Macleod, now coach of Fawkner, was the first to make a bid for Boyle, although Broadmeadows followed soon after.

"We beat Fawkner 9-0 in a friendly, and Gus told me then that he'd be interested in getting me," Boyle says.

"So I said OK. Fawkner's a progressive club, which almost got into the NSL this year. I'm not stepping down very far, because I reckon I'll be back in the NSL with Fawkner in 1985. That's what I'm aiming for."

So Boyle joins Macleod's other recruits, Ged Bannan from Juventus, Gary Hobson and Rene Lia from Croydon, Frank Macleod from Albion Rovers and Neil Garvey from Wilhelmia.



Peter Boyle



Jimmy Rooney

And the list of Ajax departures grows. First Paul Lewis, then Peter Lewis, now Peter Boyle. Will Willie Vassallo be next? He said early in the year that he was in two minds about staying in the NSL. He said at the time he might join Broadmeadows.

The thought that Boyle was leaving must have hurt Ajax officials as they watched him put on a gutsy display against J.U.S.T. in the Buffalo Summer Cup last Wednesday night.

Ajax lost, but did enough at least to force the game into extra time, but the team hadn't been playing well in earlier matches.

"We've been playing a different type of game. All the forward moves come from the back, where the defenders are supposed to commit the opposing forwards, and build up, going past them with the ball, but we haven't been covering each other when we've gone forward."

"We've also felt the absence of Peter Lewis and

Continued p.10



Charlie Yankos



Paul Carter



Joe Picciano

Yankos may quit, Carter to switch

Heidelberg-Alexander was trying hard, as we went to press, to hang onto its star defender Charlie Yankos.

And Footscray J.U.S.T. was continuing negotiations for Yugoslav star Rade Savic.

Yankos, who returned with Alan Davidson recently from England, where he trialed with Brighton, was reported to be unhappy at Heidelberg because it has lost too many senior players and has failed to replace them so far. Heidelberg was trying to persuade Yankos to stay. It also was trying to hold Jim Campbell and Jim Tansey, who have been trying to leave since the start of the year. Savic is playing on loan from Red Star to Spartak Subotica.

He was top scorer in the Yugoslav First Division while with Sarajevo, and would greatly improve J.U.S.T.'s attack.

Meanwhile, Marconi was expected to strike a deal with APLA for full back Paul Carter, whose transfer fee has been reduced, on appeal, from \$25,000 to \$15,000.

Marconi was offering APLA its star full back Vic Bozanic in part-exchange for Carter. Bozanic (ex-West Adelaide), lives in the eastern suburbs and is sick of travelling to Fairfield.

Brilliant midfielder Joe Picciano, out of action for two seasons due to a back injury, is preparing to make a comeback.

Picciano played for Footscray J.U.S.T., Marconi, Australia and Victoria.

He is building a house in St Albans and can be contacted on 689 5761.

— LAURIE SCHWAB



David Brogan gives the victory salute after scoring his third goal in Melbourne Croatia's 4-0 victory over J.U.S.T. in the Buffalo Summer Cup semi-finals. Croatia meets Hellas in the final on Saturday. See pages 8-9.

\$82,500 BACKING FOR CANBERRA

By PETER WINDSOR

Canberra Arrows, reeling at the end of last season without a sponsor, have tied up one of the most lucrative sponsorship packages in Australia.

The package is worth \$82,500.

It results from close-season negotiations carried out by Canberra's recently appointed public relations consultant, Johnny Warren.

Announcing the sponsorship package on Monday night, Warren said Canberra had managed to retain its sponsor for the past three years, Lotto Management Services, and had added the well-known Australian company, James Hardie Industries.

The Hellenic Club of Canberra is also believed to have made a handsome donation and sponsorships were also obtained from Coca-Cola and Bega Dairy Products.

"It is no secret that at the

end of last season Lotto, said they would no longer continue the sponsorship, so I'm delighted they've stayed on," Warren said.

"I'm equally delighted to have James Hardie Industries aboard. This is the first time they've been connected with soccer."

During 1984 the sponsors would back:

• Coaching clinics at every Canberra primary school — all 57 of them — run by Johnny Warren, youth coach Vic Fernandez and Arrows' manager Doug Collins — and involving numerous Canberra players;

• The introduction of a primary schools James Hardie knock-out cup competition — the final of which will be



Johnny Warren

played before one of Canberra's home games.

• A new series of coaching clinics for Canberra's high school and college teachers.

Bega Dairy Co-operative will promote a regular series of half-time junior games.

And BFC Finance will help pay for TV promotion of soccer in the A.C.T.

14, 16 and 24 teams; bonus points, two and three points; relegation

Just as Diogenes was said to be searching, with lighted lantern, for the one honest man, Australian soccer — without a lantern — is eternally seeking the one perfect solution.

How — we have been wondering for years, even decades — could soccer be structured, organised, administered and 'sold' to the public?

Conversely: how could that damned public be convinced that they are missing something very special, perhaps the greatest game of all, that without soccer their lives will remain empty, arid and pointless?

The brief history of the National League clearly reflects this frustrated philosophy.

We have tried it with 14 teams, then with 16; we did without any relegation, then with selective relegation.

Matches were worth two points, then bonus points; back to two points, up to three and now back again to two points. Not even gold

fluctuates so madly on the Zurich market.

We tried to run a Top Four, dropped it, reinstated it; had one-leg and two-leg finals, home and away, neutral venue; the lot.

Two substitutes were deemed the ideal until this was halved last year — now it's back again to two. Another sign of classic inconsistency, uncertainty, instinctive neurosis.

The latest is, of course, the two "Conferences" with their groups and sub-groups. Presumably teams won't play, battle, fight or slug

out matches but merely will confer over the outcome.

All these changes merely prove soccer's traditional insecurity in what could fairly be described as a hostile, at best indifferent milieu.

Our administrators sense, suspect or even know that what we have isn't right — but they have no clue, absolutely no idea why this marvellous game is condemned to crawl along at snail's pace.

So they tinker: change a rule here and there,

THE ANDREW DETTRE COLUMN



apply minor cosmetic surgery to the 'image' but alter nothing of substance.

While I don't claim to possess any instant remedies, I think I can pinpoint at least two

areas which would need some attention or at least some serious study.

The first one is the nature of our competition — the League season if you like. This format — teams playing

one another round after round — might have been fascinating and absorbing until about the 1950s — but has become tedious.

I know about the record crowds in Italy, week after week; I know what crowds FC Barcelona, Real Madrid, Juventus or Udinese are drawing.

But these are the exceptions. I also know of the hundreds of other clubs whose attendances are steadily declining: the Ajaxes, Bayerns, Hamburgs, Anderlechts, Rapids and many others.

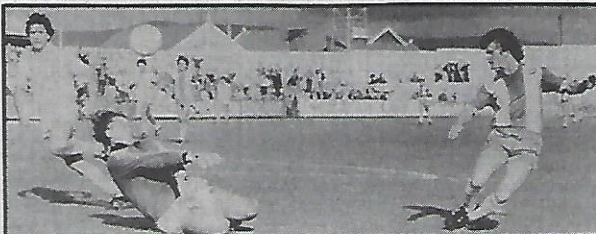
Heys out to be a winner!

"I've got this silly ambition in me. I want to win something. That's why I'm at Preston Makedonia."

That's Graham Heys talking.

He's a member of the best squad, in quality and depth, that he has ever been in during five years of National League soccer, the first three with Newcastle and latterly with West Adelaide Hellas.

Heys was born in Coventry in England but was brought up in Manchester. He "did the rounds of the clubs" but never was offered a professional contract. Those clubs included Everton, Bolton, Manchester City and Blackpool. Non-league Macclesfield Town was next on the agenda. There he befriended Andy Scott and David Jones who had been to play with Ringwood, Willemstad in the Victorian State League and spoke in glowing



Graham Heys (right) is fouled in this scoring attempt for his former club West Adelaide Hellas, by a fine save from Brisbane City goalie Kim Wishart.

terms of the opportunities afforded by Australian soccer.

Heys moved to another non-league club, Altrincham, and was contacted by Alan Vest, then coaching Newcastle KB United. Vest though, didn't have a visa vacancy for Heys in 1978, KB's first venture into NSL ranks. But the following year, Heys was in KB colors.

"In crowd terms, KB would have to be the biggest success story of the NSL to date. We averaged about 10,000 each home game during 1979 but success on the field just didn't follow. We had miserable luck with injuries and in spite of the big gates, the club never had a lot of money to toss around."

"Alan Vest has often let it be known that if he hadn't sold Kenny Boden to Sydney City a few years back, the players at Newcastle wouldn't have been paid up for that season."

Vest and KB parted company late in 1981. Heys, a close personal friend of Vest, says that that moment was the saddest in the club's history so far.

"Alan never should have left but he was under a lot of pressure from certain board members and from others in the town. There was a fair bit of back stabbing going on. Paul Trisley, who is a great loss to soccer in this country, pleaded with Alan to stay but the damage had been done."

Trisley is a former KB secretary-manager.

Ray Baartz looked after the first team in a caretaker capacity for the last few matches of the 1981 season then Ken Kaiser took over as coach.

"I had my differences with Ken Kaiser, mainly to do with money, for it's standard practice at Newcastle that the

coach handles all contracts. Doug Collins was at Sydney Olympic then and he said that he was interested in me, but when Alan Vest contacted me, and asked me to join him at Westad, he was far more definite than Collins."

So Heys and his Newcastle-born wife moved to Adelaide. West Adelaide Hellas had a miserable reputation, according to Heys, over dealing with players, but Vest changed that in 1982, putting together the club's strongest squad since its championship winning season in 1978.

"Greeks are great supporters when things are going well. They all want to put you on the back, but when things start going bad that's when the knives get sharpened. When things finally went a bit sour and we didn't get a string of good results, Alan was very disappointed with the response of the committee and the supporters."

"Alan's budget was cut in half last year. He had to keep the established players happy as well as look for new blood — no easy job. We started the season well, then things went bad. We got a reputation for being the draw specialists of the league. I think we only won seven league games."

"The players that Alan had got cheaply — Bill Amey, Paul Wormley and Micky Brennan — weren't appreciated. They were prime targets for abuse from the fans and they were made the scapegoats for our lack of success."

"Then we were asked to take pay-cuts. Some players said okay, then went behind our backs and negotiated different terms with certain committee members. It was clear to me that the committee wanted to break up the team and force Alan to resign. They'd save money that way. Eventually Alan left after reaching an agreement with the club and Peter Koullizos took over as coach. Peter's knowledge of the game is limited but he's taken in by the committee. He got plenty of pats on the back and thought that he'd get the job this year but they kicked him in the face and appointed Sam Salabasidis."

"Despite the club crying poor all last year, they made a small profit for the first time in four years."

"In my opinion, we (the players) had to suffer for the bad management that had dogged the club in the previous four or five years and when Peter Ollerton contacted me I wasn't hard to tempt."

Heys is having a few teething problems settling in Melbourne but expects to erase them once he moves into a unit in Ringwood East this weekend.

He's a bit perplexed by the fixtures for the new, two-league NSL format this season, but he's confident that Makedonia will figure prominently in the championship race.

"These fixtures are a bit hard to follow. We might end up playing against a side from Great Keppel Island at this rate but if we do I'm sure that we'll win."

"Let's face it, Newcastle, Brisbane, Canberra and Adelaide all are well out of the limelight. This new format will work well in Melbourne and Sydney and I'm convinced that within the next year or two, the Brisbane and Adelaide clubs will be forced to rejoin their respective State Leagues."

NAKED ONIA

Peter Ollerton and his committee have quietly and confidently gone about putting together a squad which they hope can win for Preston Makedonia that club's first National League honor.

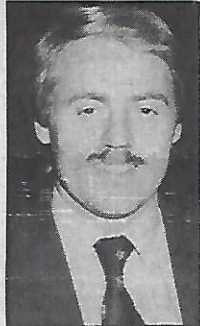
While other clubs have chased players unsuccessfully, been scared off by huge transfer and signing-on demands, then sat patiently yet expectantly in the hope that Appeals Boards would lower the transfer fees of prospective newcomers, Makedonia has signed the four players coach Ollerton said would give him a squad as strong as any in the land.

Gary Cole, Graham Heys, Ian Dobson, and, late last week, Robbie Dunn, have joined Makedonia and all four are supremely confident that their new club is set for success this season.

Makedonia, after winning the Victorian State League title in 1980, joined the NSL the following year, finishing 12th. In 1982, the team finished 5th and last year, after leading for most of the season, had to finally settle for 3rd place.

Ollerton's squad this year, despite losing Gary Ward to Juventus and David Jones to Western Australia, has much more depth and quality.

Makedonia is on the move in 1984.



Peter Ollerton



By CRAIG MACKENZIE



Robbie Dunn (centre) in Westad colors, soars above team mate Graham Heys in this heading duel. At left is Paul Wilkinson of St. George Budapest. His team mate, Robbie O'Shea is on the extreme right.

Robbie Dunn on the path to Socceroo selection?

Robbie Dunn sees his move to Preston Makedonia last week for \$4,500 as a stepping stone to Socceroo selection.

Makedonia beat Marconi, Adelaide City and Melbourne Croatia for the signature of the central defender who has spent the past three weeks at the centre of a major row in South Australian soccer.

Dunn left West Adelaide and signed with West Australian club Bayswater three weeks ago. Then he switched from Bayswater to South Australian club Azzurri and shocked West Adelaide fans and officials by lining up against Wests in a South Australian Ampol Cup match. The South Australian federation charged Azzurri with playing an ineligible player but subsequent investigation found that one of the office staff in the South Australian federation's headquarters had issued a registration unit to an Azzurri official, verifying Dunn's switch there.

The South Australian federation ruled that Dunn was an Azzurri player, effectively clearing the way for his move to Preston Makedonia.

It's all a bit complicated really, but the travels of Dunn have been a well engineered play to get him to Makedonia with a minimum of financial fuss.

Dunn, who joined West Adelaide in 1982, had a maximum transfer fee in his contract there which allowed him to join Bayswater for \$3,000. There was a rider in that agreement which netted Wests the excess should Dunn then leave Bayswater for more than \$3,000. So Dunn, using the ASF rule which allows players to transfer interstate on more than just one occasion in the same year, joined Azzurri for a \$3,000 transfer fee. Wests were left high and dry by the South Australian federation's ruling last week that Dunn was an Azzurri player and Makedonia merely gave Azzurri \$3,000 in a transfer fee and \$1,500 in expenses for Dunn.

"I've never worried about my situation, not even when Preston first approached Westad which put a \$25,000 fee on me," said Dunn.

"Coming to Melbourne is the best possible move for me, if I'm to achieve my aim of getting into the

Australian team. And joining a club like Preston, which has everything going for it and should enjoy success this year, is a bonus."

Peter Ollerton is just the man to bring Preston success. His squad probably wasn't big enough last year but now the side has a great chance of winning the league.

Dunn, 23, was born in Paisley in Scotland. He's a Glasgow Rangers fan so he'll feel at home at Makedonia alongside Gordon Flavell and George McMillan.

Dunn came to Australia in 1971. His first club here was Kwinana United, then in the West Australian Third Division. Frank Schaeper, the current E.D. Azzurri coach, was coaching Kwinana then and David Jones, the former Adelaide City, West Adelaide, South Melbourne Hellas and Makedonia stopper, also was there.

When Dunn was 18, North Perth Croatia signed him on a two year contract but after one season he transferred to the Schaeper-led Azzurri for \$3,000 and in 1981, played in the Azzurri team which won the South Australian State League, the cup and the charity shield.

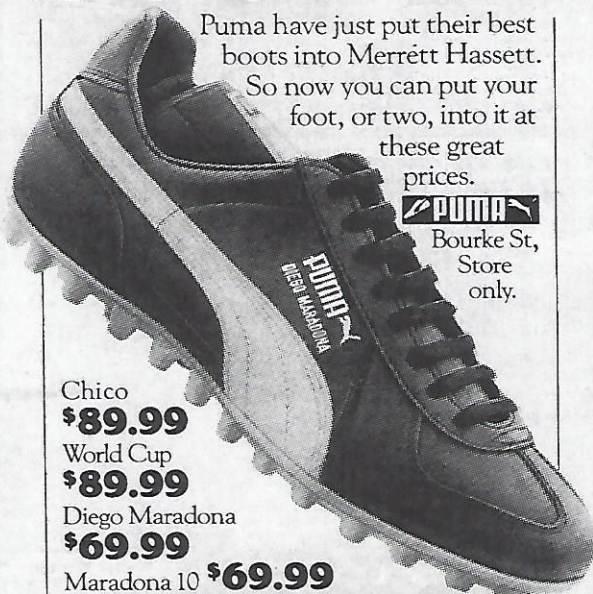
That was when West Adelaide realised Dunn's qualities and signed him for \$3,000 for the 1982 season.

"It was great at Westad at first. Alan Vest was coach and we had a fine year in 1982. Then injuries hit us hard and our performances last year fell away. The club got rid of Vesty and a few British players and brought nine Greek lads into the squad. It was an attempt to attract the Greek fans back but it didn't work. Nevertheless, I won a \$1,000 Player of the Year award last year, which was some consolation after the team had a pretty bad season."

"It's hard to see Westad doing well this year. Neil McGachey is back and Graham Honeyman and Ian McGregor are still there but although some of the young Greek lads have great potential, I think the squad lacks experience and depth."

Not so at Makedonia where Dunn, despite being one of four new signings this year, will have to fight hard for his place. He's both well prepared and well credentialed.

PUMA PUTS THE BOOT IN.



Puma have just put their best boots into Merritt Hassett.

So now you can put your foot, or two, into it at these great prices.



Bourke St, Store only.

Chico \$89.99

World Cup \$89.99

Diego Maradona \$69.99

Maradona 10 \$69.99

MERRETT HASSETT

THE SPORTS SPECIALISTS

415 Bourke Street, Melbourne.



sometimes; top four occasionally, and now we're conferring...

In a vastly changed society, people reject the repetitive and the boring; they seek excitement, novelty and drama. A Bayern v Leverkusen Bundesliga match is likely to be a yawn — but a visit by Liverpool or Barcelona will mobilise Bavaria and make the Alps glow with glee.

Much the same, I think, is happening in cricket here. While the one-day World Series matches, especially with the West Indians, sent cosmic waves through the country, interstate matches are staged to

empty terraces and even the traditional five-day tests look anachronistic compared with the rapid-fire action of the limited overs series.

This would seem to indicate that the routine events in sport are losing their appeal.

Perhaps, one day soon, we will pack our soccer season with "special events" — tournaments, internationals, challenge games — rather than facing the daunting prospect of 28 repetitive rounds.

This would be a radical

departure from the practices of the past — but these practices no longer work anyhow and to retain them, just because they are "traditional," is to defy a logical reaction to changing public tastes and market needs.

The other area which serves as a built-in brake to our progress is the lack of post-competition outlets.

Our champion team, cup winners and perhaps another two or three top sides, strive and struggle for months and the only thing they have to show

for their effort is a little plaque, perhaps a silver bowl. And all that for a huge financial outlay.

I am rather mystified why the ASF will not take the initiative of establishing some sort of Pacific Cup similar to the three tournaments of Europe.

Is there any valid reason — apart from inertia or lack of imagination — why the champion teams and runners-up of Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong could not stage an annual tournament on the basis of merit?

It would be useless to wait for ALL countries in the region to show interest at the same time; this will never happen. But if a small-scale annual event, well organised and promoted, succeeded, you can bet your bottom yen that Japan, South Korea, China and all the others would queue up to gain admission.

This is what happened in the 1950s when the European Cup was launched — by Gabriel Hanot, a French jour-

list — and was promptly snubbed by the English FA. Now, less than 30 years later, the survival of all British clubs hinges on "getting into Europe..."

Without such an incentive for clubs, officials, players and coaches, the domestic seasons will lose more and more of their appeal; eventually it will be deemed cheaper and more advisable for a team to finish somewhere in the middle rather than strive for excellence.

And once that motivation goes, our whole edifice will crumble, driving even the remaining few fans to their video sets, cassette players, swimming pools and barbecue pits.

Soccer enjoys no divine protection; there is no guarantee at all that the semi-professional game, as we know it today, will survive for ever.

We have to help it along — and with a lot more than tired, unimaginative and doomed mini-solutions.

OLYMPIC MIGHTIER THAN EVER

Olympic shunned Dobson



Ian Dobson (pictured) wrote to Sydney Olympic in 1981, as well as to Croydon City and two New Zealand clubs. Olympic never replied and although he was offered a better contract from one of the Kiwi clubs he decided to sign for Croydon.

Olympic had effectively knocked back a veteran of 92 English League games with Hull City and a first team regular with Hereford at the time.

Dobson, 26, is settling into his new surroundings well at Preston Makedonia but it only is by the good grace of our NSL overlords that this first rate stopper is set to wear a red and black strip for some years to come.

That's not only a reference to the dust settling from the battle for Dobson waged recently by Makedonia and Melbourne Croatia.

Had Croydon City, Dobson's club for the past two seasons, been admitted to the 1984 NSL, he wouldn't have moved.

"Croydon's a smashing little club. I would have stayed had they got into the NSL but I've always wanted to play the highest standard here," Dobson said.

Dobson has been the target of Footscray J.U.S.T., Sunshine-George Cross, Juventus and, of course, Makedonia and Croatia in the past two years. J.U.S.T. was set to sign him from Croydon for about \$6,000 in 1982 but finally reneged on the deal.

"Preston's offer was no better than Croatia's. The reason I joined Preston was because I wanted to play as soon as I came back from England. Croatia and Croydon couldn't come to terms and at first I had agreed with Croatia to take Croydon to the Appeals Board to get the \$15,000 on my head lowered. But the more I thought about that, the more unhappy I was. I've got a lot of very good friends at Croydon."

Dobson was born in Hull. He joined the local club, as a 16 year old apprentice, signing professional forms when just 18. Hull was in Second Division then and former West Brom stopper John Kaye was manager.

Hull had its sights set on winning promotion to First Division. It was about middle of the league ladder when it sacked Kaye and appointed Bobby Collins and promptly was relegated!

While Hull struggled, Dobson's talents didn't go unnoticed. Barnsley put in a \$160,000 bid for him during the 1978-79 season but Hull turned it down.

Ken Houghton replaced Collins and in turn was replaced by Mike Smith. Dobson had signed a three year contract with Hull a month before Smith took over but was one of the casualties of Smith's player clear-out.

Dobson joined Hereford United in 1980 on a free transfer, captaining the first team for a few games during his second season.

It was Dobson's disillusionment with the standard of living in England that prompted him to consider playing abroad, and led to him joining Croydon in 1982.

"Family life is far better here. I'm really pleased with the way things have worked out for me. I'm just moving into a new house in North Baywater and I'm employed as a departmental manager with Johnson Brothers."

He may also be about to taste success on the soccer fields of Australia.

Plenty of goals left in big Cole

"I really can't see anyone giving us any trouble. We've got the ability to beat any side. We've got bags of bite and the spirit among the players is great."

So says a man who should know. Gary Cole has scored 107 goals in the NSL, made 33 appearances for Australia, and has to be the most established central striker in the land, having played in National League ranks every season since the league's inception in 1977. Sure, others have been NSL evergreens. None can match Cole's scoring record.

And if he plays as long as his father, he'll break that magical 1,000 goal barrier with ease. Cole's dad stopped playing last year. He turned 49 this September.

The last few months have been testing for Cole. He's turned vegetarian but his playing career has taken a far more dramatic switch. He was adamant for weeks that he wanted to leave Heidelberg and join Preston Makedonia. Heidelberg president Sam Gouloupoulos tried to get Cole to stay but failed. When Cole's insistence on a move became public, just Makedonia and Juventus offered him terms. Makedonia eventually signing him for a \$22,000 transfer fee.

"I'm a player of limited ability. I know what my strengths are and I play to them. I can hold the ball up front until players support me and I've got the ability to knock the ball past defenders if need be. I'm not too good in the air and I'm not the sort of player who can take on two or three men inside a yard but I like to think that once I'm inside the area I finish pretty well."

Cole came here from England as a 15 year old and his first senior club in Victoria was South Yarra, one of the oldest clubs in the state, currently in Provisional League Division Two. South Yarra was a Metro League club when Cole joined.

"I had almost two seasons there and I've still got a top scorer's trophy from the club. South Yarra gave me my first taste of senior soccer. I originally phoned up to find out if I could join one of their junior teams but they didn't have juniors. The guy on the other end of the phone asked me how big I was and when I told him, he invited me down to train with the men. That's where I learned to take the knocks."



Gary Cole in Heidelberg colors, doing what Makedonia fans hope he'll do frequently this year — scoring goals. At left is South Melbourne Hellas goalie Peter Laumets.

During Cole's seasons there he represented Victoria as a junior and was spotted and recommended to Ringwood Wilhelmina by Bill Curran.

Cole eventually joined Wilhelmina, but only after a far from productive training session at Slavia.

"That was the worse night's training I'd had in my life. The players spent the session sweating and fighting with each other and I ended up just having shooting practice against Mike O'Hara."

"When I saw the facilities and floodlights at Wilhelmina I said to myself, 'This'll do me, my son. It was the next step up for me and there I played with Peter Ollerton, Bob McGinn, Mike Pye, Brian Thom and Micky Lynn."

"I've got to tell you about Micky Lynn. I used to think that it was impossible to stand on the opposition goal line and put the ball over the bar. Micky completely changed my opinion on that one. While I was thumping balls into the swimming pool behind the goals, there was Micky pulling off this amazing feat time and again. We still joke about it whenever we see each other."

Cole joined Heidelberg for the 1976 Victorian State League season. He was bought by then Heidelberg coach, Jack Kelly, the former Soccerco goalkeeper. Eight seasons later, the Heidelberg connection has been severed but there are some great memories and even greater friendships.

"We always had good players at Heidelberg. Some of them were brilliant. The friends I made there are great people but there's something you can't define about the way we always got so close to winning things but just couldn't. You can't put it into words, really, other than to say that Heidelberg simply doesn't know how to win."

"I'm 28 now. I'm at my peak and I want to play in a successful team. I'm really confident about Preston's chances this year."



INTER...
The Shirt Worn by Champions

- ★ TRACKSUITS
- ★ TRAINING BIBS
- ★ WINDCHEATERS
- ★ MODERN STYLE SHIRTS

All manufactured in our modern factory at

NORTHCOTE SPORTS

555 High Street, Northcote
Come and discuss your requirements with Rob DiMarco

Ring (03) 481 2275 — A.H. (03) 460 2363

Odzakov, as team mates see him

"He can knock a ball anywhere he likes. He changes direction so quickly. He's some player" — Gary Cole.

"I've never played with a continental player in mid-field like him. He can do anything, anytime, anywhere and he's got a lot of heart. He'll graft. If he gets hit he hits back" — Graham Heys

"He's got so much skill. He's one of the best players I've seen here. I didn't even know who he was but at my first training session he stood out like a sore thumb" — Ian Dobson

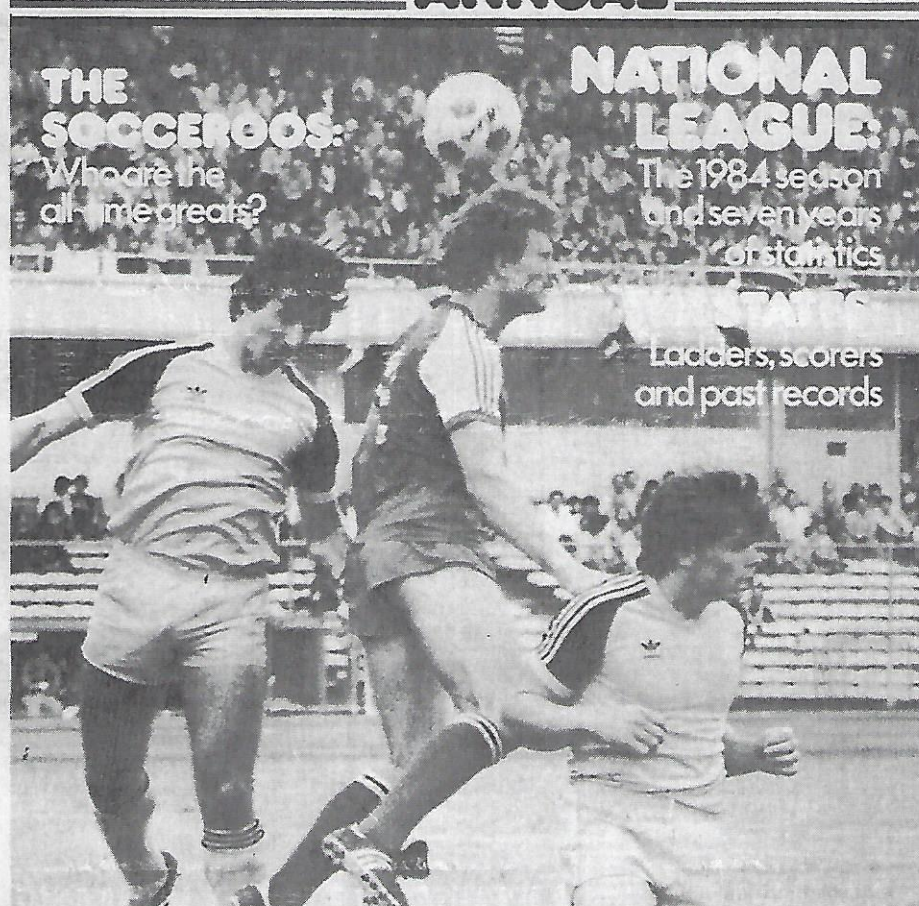
Zarko Odzakov

NATIONAL SOCCER ANNUAL

NATIONAL SOCCER ANNUAL

ONLY
\$1.50

A/SOCCER
ACTION
PUBLICATION



Australia's ONLY national soccer annual, out for the first time!

DON'T MISS OUT ON YOUR COPY

Here are only some of the contents in this exciting, 60-page publication:

- ★ THE NEW NATIONAL LEAGUE AND HOW IT WORKS
- ★ ALL NSL STANDINGS AND SEVEN-YEAR HONORS ROLL, 1977-1983
- ★ NATIONAL CUP TRIBUTE TO SYDNEY OLYMPIC
- ★ NSL COACHES ROSTER, 1977-1984
- ★ EVERY GOALSCORER IN NSL, NATIONAL CUP AND TOP FOUR SERIES, 1977-1983
- ★ FULL VOTING LIST FOR NATIONAL BEST PLAYER AWARD
- ★ MERLION CUP — ANALYSIS OF THE SOCCEROOS' TRIUMPH
- ★ THE NATIONAL YOUTH TEAM — ITS BRILLIANT 1983 CAMPAIGN
- ★ THE SOCCEROO ALL-STARS — WE NAME THE 11 GREATS
- ★ SOCCEROO APPEARANCE RECORD, 1964-1984. EVERY GAME PLAYED BY EVERY SOCCEROO
- ★ 1983 ALL-STAR SELECTIONS FOR NSL, VICTORIA AND NSW.
- ★ VICTORIAN ROUND-UP, WITH ALL SCORES, AND A UNIQUE HISTORICAL RECORD, 1958-1984
- ★ METROPOLITAN LEAGUE BEST AND FAIREST VOTING (VIC)
- ★ ALL VICTORIAN LADDERS OF 1983
- ★ SPOTLIGHT ON THE LATROBE VALLEY
- ★ MELITA, CROATIA AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN NSW
- ★ ALL NSW LEAGUE AND CUP SCORERS
- ★ SOUTH AUSTRALIAN LADDERS, ALL-TIME HONORS ROLL AND ROTHMANS MEDAL
- ★ WESTERN AUSTRALIAN LADDERS, HONORS ROLL, SCORERS AND PAST WINNERS
- ★ SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH AUSTRALIA'S MOST SUCCESSFUL TEAM
- ★ TASMANIA — ALL SCORERS, LADDERS, ROTHMANS MEDAL VOTING
- ★ NORTHERN NSW — LADDERS AND SCORERS
- ★ QUEENSLAND HOW THEY FINISHED IN '83, PLUS QUEENSLAND'S DEFEAT OF NSW
- ★ REVIEW OF 1983 IN THE GREEK AND YUGOSLAV LANGUAGES

Meet the wing wizards of Croatia

● Melbourne Croatia, under new coach Terry Hennessy, has been showing its class in the Buffalo Summer Cup, and is tipped to be among the front-runners in the NSL. One of the secrets of Croatia's success is the power and wizardry generated on the flanks by Josip Biskic and Steve Gojevic. KORNEL KAMPEAN profiles both of them in this special feature...

Biskic is unsure about his future

Josip Biskic is not sure how long he will continue to play in Australia.

At 24 he is Croatia's best player and one of its top aces for the N.S.L. season.

However, he says that although he is looking forward to playing in the N.S.L. he does not know yet what the future holds for him here.

"I am not sure if I will remain in Australia although I received my permanent residency. It does not depend entirely on myself but other factors as well," he said.

Biskic arrived in Australia in 1982 with Jozo Antolovic and together with Drago Dekanovic formed a trio of visa players at Croatia.

He didn't take long to adapt to the style of play here and it soon became obvious that he was an above average player.

Biskic had a promising career in Yugoslavia, playing in the First Division with Osijek.

He started with the Osijek juniors where he played for three years before reaching the first team at the age of 18, and played a full season in 1977.

His first game was at the Red Star stadium against the most popular team in Yugoslavia.

The following season however, he fell out with Osijek and decided to move somewhere else to get a game.

He played in the Croatian



Josip Biskic takes a tumble as he's tackled by Croydon's Mark Brown.

league (the equivalent of Third Division in Yugoslavia) with Borovo and Slavonki Brod before coming to Australia.

Biskic is still improving his game and he is satisfied with his form here. He is a player who will long be remembered in the N.S.L. especially by interstate teams.

His wizardry and coolness on the ball makes him an exciting player to watch but he also has the high work rate of a dedicated team member.

"I am disappointed that we did not win the State League last year," he says.

"We certainly showed that we were capable of winning all three major honors by

beating Ajax in the top four cup and also winning the Dockerty Cup."

He is expecting to do well in the N.S.L. and thinks that with a couple of new players Croatia could do really well in the new competition.

"Terry Hennessy is a good coach and there is definitely a change of style in our play. The main thing is that everyone is happy and there shouldn't be any problems. The club has achieved a lot with his appointment."

Biskic played in the First Division in Yugoslavia at the same time Zarko Ozdakov played there. They know each other and have played against each other in the Buffalo Cup

STEVE GOJEVIC: 103 GOALS IN ONE SEASON

Steve Gojevic is only 18 but already has two seasons of first team experience in the State League.

He scored 103 League and cup goals in the Croatia under 13s for an all-time record. Now, as a first team player he is displaying solid form as a wide midfield player, forming a deadly duo with Josip Biskic on the Croatia flanks.

Gojevic has talent and he is using it the best way possible in a winning team.

"It is difficult when you are the youngest player because you have to listen to the older players," he says. "I am getting a lot of support from my family and the other players as well. It was strange in the beginning, playing with the seniors, because I started when I was 13."

He has played, during his two State League seasons with Croatia, under five different coaches — Len McKendry, Duj Zemunik, Rocco Ilie, Bill McArthur and John Gardiner.

Gojevic learnt a bit from everyone but thinks that sometimes he missed out on selection to the first team because he was the youngest and the easiest to sacrifice. With Terry Hennessy he now is experiencing a touch of professionalism.

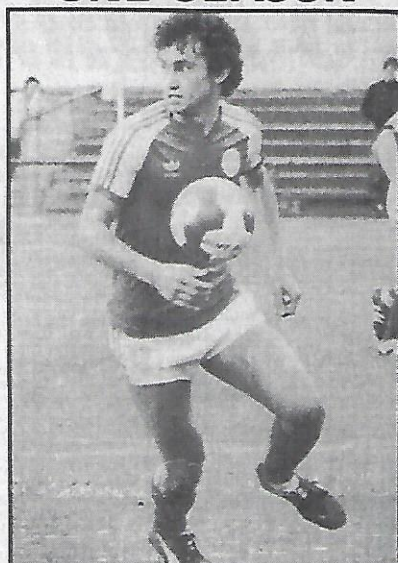
"Hennessy is a professional. He is very demanding and tells you exactly what he wants from you. If he is not happy he tells you straight away, which is very good. He helped me a lot not just at my game but also when I had some problems with my contract."

Gojevic cannot wait to play in the N.S.L. He is confident because Croatia is doing well in the Buffalo Cup against N.S.L. sides.

"I think that the N.S.L. will improve a lot this year. If the quality of the game is good the crowds will come in. Croatia always has had a large following and the supporters are really good to the players. There are a minority who are never happy but that happens everywhere. I don't see the N.S.L. as being much different from the State League now that there will be more local derbies."

With Hennessy at the helm, Gojevic thinks the team has better organisation.

"We play attacking soccer and the game flows freely on the flanks where Biskic and I play. Biskic is a top player who understands the game really well. We have the same attitude in the game, in running back and forward, concentrating on attack. When he first arrived I thought of him as a very skilful player at training but who at first had a bit of a communication problem with the British players in the team because of language barriers. He soon adapted here, though."



Steve Gojevic — alert even before he gets the ball under control.

A BAN ON KIWIS AND COACHES?

Coaches may soon have to be licensed by the Australian Soccer Federation before they can coach National League or State League clubs.

And players recruited from New Zealand may be prohibited from playing for their country against Australia in the World Cup.

So says ASF president Sir Arthur George in the ASF's annual report.

Sir Arthur also believes that while the National Coaching Scheme is dominated by English-orientated coaches, NSL clubs should import experienced coaches from Europe and South America.

On licensing of coaches, he says:

"I will ask the (ASF) executive to set up a system of licensing coaches who would be permitted to coach First Division clubs and National League club teams."

"An essential part of any such licensing system would be to insist, after providing a reasonable period of grace, that coaches who desire to renew their licence must either attend overseas ASF-approved coaching courses to update their skills or, if that is not possible, to attend at the Australian Institute of Sport coaching courses which can be and will be organised by the ASF, hopefully with the assistance of a nominated FIFA coach."

Sir Arthur criticised NSL and State League clubs for "rotating the same coaches year after year."

"Except in isolated cases, there appear to be no attempts by coaches to bring themselves up to date, and certainly no attempt by NSL clubs, in particular, to bring to Australia, as is being done by all other developing soccer nations, overseas coaches to bring our coaching methods up to date."

About New Zealand players based in Australia, he said:

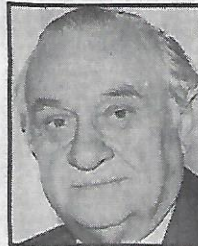
"In the 1982 World Cup campaign the majority of New Zealand national players previously had participated in our National League competition. Steps are being taken to ensure that any New Zealand players in future recruited by our NSL clubs are recruited on condition that they will not be released to play against us for New Zealand in the World Cup."

Sir Arthur also took a tough

line about young Australian players transferring abroad.

"A standard form of contract is being prepared to ensure that players produced at great expense to this federation will not transfer overseas for their own benefit and the benefit of their clubs without this federation reserving the right to recall them to fulfill World Cup obligations."

"If this policy appears to be contradictory, it is at least pragmatic and necessary."



Sir Arthur George

COMMENT by Andrew Dettre



If, as Sir Arthur George claims, our senior coaches — or some of them anyway — lack the necessary skills and knowledge, surely the ASF must accept the bulk of the blame for this.

Since 1975 the ASF has tolerated a sub-standard National Coaching Scheme under which, in a matter of few weeks, almost anybody can gain a senior certificate.

Yet it takes three to five years of part-time study and work in Holland, West Germany and other places...

Since 1975 neither the ASF nor the tobacco company which pays the bill for the scheme has bothered to ask its coaching director, Eric Worthington, whether this country is now equipped to produce top-level, fully skilled coaches of European standard.

Nine long years wasted — even if the scheme did produce a lot of so-called junior coaches.

Equally puzzling is Sir Arthur's broadside at the domination of English-orientated coaches under Eric Worthington.

Of course, the word "dominated" is incorrect: it should be monopolised. All of them, without exception, are from Britain and only two of them have senior coaching experience in Australia.

Surely the ASF should have woken up to this a bit earlier rather than condone a system under which mates from the "old country"

have made the State Directors' posts a closed shop.

Sir Arthur's suggestion that NSL clubs import coaches from Europe and South America — a good idea, really — bears no guarantee that the firm hold by British coaches — many of them quite distinguished — on the State Directors' job will be loosened.

But, all in all, it's heartening to see that at long last, more than 10 years after resuming the presidency, Sir Arthur is paying some attention to this chronic problem — the inadequate standard of senior coaching in this country.

Maybe it has dawned on him that our soccer will not improve — whether we have 40,000, 400,000 or even 4,000,000 juniors — until and unless we tackle the problem of coaching seriously, patiently and honestly.

And just one more thing, to avoid misunderstandings and hurt feelings: this is not an anti-British tirade, as such.

If something is good and progressive in British soccer, let's by all means adopt it.

But coaching — or rather, the system of producing coaches — is done in an infinitely higher level in other countries.

And if even the best-known English coaches lag behind their European counterparts — what an idiotic idea it is to expect that their expatriate colleagues who migrate to Down Under and come from the third or 13th echelon, will give Australia soccer the facelift we so badly need.

O'Connor Bergers' problem says Wollongong boss

These are historic pictures. We will never see the likes of them again.

It's Phil O'Connor being welcomed by Heidelberg president Sam Gouloupoulos, and playing for Heidelberg against Croatia in the Buffalo Summer Cup.

Only days after his debut appearance in the gold and black of his new club, O'Connor announced he would be staying in Wollongong "for family reasons." It is believed his wife did not want to move to Melbourne.

Gouloupoulos says he wants back "every cent" Heidelberg has spent for O'Connor — and that includes air fares, hotel accommodation and other incidental expenses.

Heidelberg had paid Wollongong City half of O'Connor's \$16,000 transfer fee, but had not yet paid any money to O'Connor.

Blacktown has renewed its interest in O'Connor, and the player is permitted to transfer as many times as he likes within the NSL until the cut-off point in late June, providing Heidelberg releases him from his contract.

Wollongong president Laurie Kelly, interviewed by



"Soccer Action's" Kornel Kampean, said: "Phil O'Connor is legally Heidelberg's player and it's up to Heidelberg to decide what to do with him."

He said the \$8000 balance of O'Connor's transfer fee was due on March 31.



Would you like to live and play in Sunny Queensland?

Brisbane club Eastern Suburbs, a member of the Queensland Premier League, is looking for experienced players. Excellent remuneration and playing conditions.

Ring Coach Ray Pocock on (07) 391 4046 for details.

NUNAWADING CITY S.C.

of the Metropolitan League Division One, requires Junior coaches for Under/11, Under/12 and Under/13 teams.

For further information phone

MR PETER KARAK

Tel. 233 5913

* GOOD FOOD * GOOD MUSIC

* CONGENIAL COMPANY

Shuggy's Bistro

Come along on Thursday, Friday & Saturday nights

8pm to 12, also Sundays 7pm to 10.30pm

and listen to Danny McCluskey and the Avajars

THE WINDSOR CASTLE ALBERT STREET WINDSOR, VIC.

Tel. 51 3462

GIAMPAOLO, VALERI TO MONARO

By PETER WINDSOR

APIA-Leichhardt has sold "Baz" Giampaolo, Walter Valeri and Bernie Willox to Queanbeyan club Inter-Monaro for a mere \$15,000.

Confirming the purchase yesterday, Monaro's president Laurie Pastrello said he was delighted to have the three players permanently in the Canberra district.

Queanbeyan Italian communities' favourite sons.

And three years ago they made national headlines when they became the then second costliest two men in Australian soccer history when

Canberra City paid \$40,000 for their services.

Willox was on loan to Monaro last season while neither Giampaolo or Valeri had any success with APIA. Giampaolo, out more times than in, was the big disappointment of the club.

But Pastrello still has only the highest regard for the players' talents.

"He doesn't turn 25 until next month and I know he can do a job for us," Mr Pastrello said. "I still think he was constantly played in the wrong position by both Canberra and APIA."

Pastrello, of course, makes no secret of his ambition to see Monaro one day in the NSL.

It is for this reason that the club is laying a totally new playing surface and upgrading other facilities during the 1984 season.

There are also plans to refurbish its already large licensed premises. As Monaro owns five acres of land in Queanbeyan it has ample space to develop further.

And if the club did win the NSW State League in 1984 its entry into the NSL could be sooner rather than later.

Giampaolo told "Soccer Action" Kornel Kampman: "I come from Canberra and most of my family is still there. Apart from that I enjoy playing at Monaro. To me offer, I will only consider a short period in the State League because I wish to be back in the N.S.L. by 1985."

Giampaolo played two games for Australia but that was back in 1978 and 1981.

"I played for the national team as soon as I started in the NSL. I was followed by bad luck in the N.S.L. as I used to get injured easily. I decided that the best thing to do is just walk off when there is an injury because it is not worth it to continue playing and make it worse. Bodies are not like machines."

Testimonial for Stark

Canberra Arrows will meet an all-star team in a testimonial match for former captain Roy Stark, at the National Sports Stadium at 6 pm on Friday.

Stark's career was cut short three years ago by a knee injury.

Some of the players expected to take part in the testimonial are: Jim Cant (Sydney Hakoah), Tony Henderson (Marconi), Adrian Alston, Ron Tilsed (Wollongong), Sebastian Giampaolo and Walter Valeri (APIA).



Walter Valeri surges forward, past Heidelberg defender Charlie Yankos.



Sebastian Giampaolo shields the ball from Heidelberg defender Ian McKie.

Monaro wins Friendship Cup

By PETER WINDSOR

NSW State League side Inter-Monaro edged out Canberra Arrows in Canberra's major pre-season tournament — the Friendship Cup — on Sunday night.

They finished the game tied 2-2 but under the rules of this, the Friendship Cup's inaugural year, Monaro took the title because it scored 11 goals in the tournament and Canberra scored only 10.

It was an impressive final watched by a crowd of over 600.

And Monaro, which plays in the NSW

State League, looks set for a solid season after capturing the signatures of Baz Giampaolo, Billy Willox and Walter Valeri from APIA.

Monaro's goals came from John Walsh and Giampaolo while Alan Reis netted both goals for the Arrows.

All four goals came in the second stanza.

It was a fine ending to the new Cup competition, the other two competing teams being the Australian Institute of Sport and Belconnen.

Perhaps its importance not just now,

but for the future, was put best in the match program by Canberra's PR consultant, Johnny Warren.

"The significant factor about the tournament is not merely who plays well or for that matter who wins," he said. "It is hopefully the first of many steps towards reuniting the many soccer factions in the ACT."

"Soccer in the ACT, in fact all of Australia, has suffered because of factional fighting and petty jealousies over the past 100 years."

"The greatest game in the world has never realised its undoubted potential in the ACT and elsewhere in Australia because of this."

Just watch out for Melita and Croatia

Watch out for Sydney Croatia: Attila Abonyi's men will be at least in the top six of the NSL northern region this year.

Of this I am convinced, following Croatia's 1-0 victory over Sydney Olympic in the NSW Ampol Cup semi-finals.

And Melita Eagles, promoted to the NSL along with Croatia, also will finish in the top six.

The other four should be: Sydney Olympic, Marconi, St George Budapest and Sydney City Hakoah, providing Hakoah retains its unsettled players — Kosmina, Watson, Robertson, O'Connor, Murray.

Talking about Hakoah, I've got to take my hat off once again to Ljubo Gokjovic.

It was the youth players who trained under him that have been filling the gaps in the Hakoah senior team — and all have performed with distinction.

Gokjovic previously was coach of Olympic's youth team, which produced senior players, Tony Dakos, Terry Patulis, Chris Kalantzis and Bobby Naumov.

Now Gokjovic is at Auburn. When will an NSL club snap him up?

Anyway, back to Croatia:

I want to mention briefly some of the stars who make Croatia the fine team it is.

First, the goalkeeper, Steve Watson. He saved a penalty against us in the Ampol Cup semi-final, and he also stopped other good shots. He's very flexible and alert — and it's no wonder that national coach Les Scheinflug wants him to play for Australia. Apart from being a reflex keeper, Watson also is solid and safe and controls his defence very well indeed.

Wally Savor, in attack, is fast and mobile and has good control, and Bruno Vidaic is an outstanding defender.

Abonyi's two recruits from Sutherland, Shane Clinch and Steve Meades, have proved to be valuable acquisitions after only a few weeks with their new club. Clinch played on the right flank in the semi-final, meaning I had to oppose him. That was a difficult job, believe me. I ended up spending more time in defence than in attack.

Meades was equally as good, playing at left midfield.

Good news for Roos

News about overseas teams like Glasgow Rangers and perhaps Manchester United, touring mid-year should give all soccer fans new hope of Australia reaching the next World Cup finals — even though we do have to play against Israel and a European team in the qualifying series.

Our eminent visitors, and a planned European tour for the Socceroos late this year, should give us invaluable experience and help us prepare for the World Cup campaign.

The tour, in particular, should give the team the unity, spirit and understanding it needs to do justice to the fans' aspirations.

In addition, there will be a three-match series against China, as arranged by Prime Minister Bob Hawke during his visit there.

As we will have to play

KAT'S CORNER with PETER KATHOLOS



Steve Watson

controls his defence very well indeed.

Wally Savor, in attack, is fast and mobile and has good control, and Bruno Vidaic is an outstanding defender.

Abonyi's two recruits from Sutherland, Shane Clinch and Steve Meades, have proved to be valuable acquisitions after only a few weeks with their new club. Clinch played on the right flank in the semi-final, meaning I had to oppose him. That was a difficult job, believe me. I ended up spending more time in defence than in attack.

Meades was equally as good, playing at left midfield.

Good news for Roos

News about overseas teams like Glasgow Rangers and perhaps Manchester United, touring mid-year should give all soccer fans new hope of Australia reaching the next World Cup finals — even though we do have to play against Israel and a European team in the qualifying series.

Our eminent visitors, and a planned European tour for the Socceroos late this year, should give us invaluable experience and help us prepare for the World Cup campaign.

The tour, in particular, should give the team the unity, spirit and understanding it needs to do justice to the fans' aspirations.

In addition, there will be a three-match series against China, as arranged by Prime Minister Bob Hawke during his visit there.

As we will have to play



Wall Savor

against Taiwan in the World Cup qualifying rounds, a visit to China will be of great value, as conditions will be similar, although the opposition, of course, will be much stronger on the mainland.

Another plus is that so many top Australian players have been getting overseas experience under their own steam.

Eddie Krncevic and David Mitchell are playing top-class soccer in Europe, and both have said they are available for Australia's World Cup campaign.

Alan Davidson just has returned after training stints with Bayern Munich, Arsenal and Brighton, Robbie Slater spent time with Nottingham Forest, both Tommy McCulloch and David Lowe trained with Southampton, and it wasn't long ago that the young Victorian player, Andrew Zinni, of Juventus, spent some

time with AS Roma. Watch Zinni. He's going places!

500 mil. crowd!

Talking about Roma, its local derby against Juventus was watched by a staggering 500 million people!

The match was telecast live to France, Brazil, Canada and the U.S.

Glen Hoddle, Gary Shaw and Graham Rix say they will quit English soccer at the end of the year, because English soccer is going downhill and clubs can't afford to pay the kind of money available on the continent.

Clubs like Juventus are putting the accent on skill and entertainment. They are luring the super-stars of world soccer — hence the publicity and the live TV coverage abroad.

England, in comparison, is staid and uninteresting.

The latest super-star about to go to Juventus, is Karl-Heinz Rummenigge of Bayern Munich.

"I'll be proud to play alongside Michel Platini, Rossi, Tardelli and Scirea," Rummenigge said.

Juventus also is trying to get the brilliant winger Eder from Brazil. It is likely to lose Zbigniew Boniek, but will gain the great Dane, Laudrup, who at present is leased out to Lazio.

TASMANIAN SCENE with Walter Pless



Leszczynski returns to White Eagles

Hobart City, Hobart's 'second' Italian club, put a dent in Juventus-Pioneer's pre-season record when it beat Ken Morton's outfit 4-2 in the annual Italian Cup challenge match.

The win delighted City's new coach, Glyn Jenkins, who is also the State under 18 coach and who has had previous senior coaching experience with White Eagles, South Hobart and Caledonians.

Wollongong defender, Peter Willis, who is back in Hobart on holiday (he played for Rapid-Wrest Point before joining Wollongong), 'guested' for Hobart City against Juventus and even scored a goal for the winner.

University lost 4-8 to Juventus on Wednesday evening and then drew 2-2 with Rapid on Sunday in the club's first two pre-season friendlies.

Jimmy Kerr, who had announced his retirement, made a surprise appearance for the students against Juventus and scored a hat-trick. Despite his feat, Kerr is still not certain to play this season as he has still to appear at a training session.

Donnie O'Brien scored both of University's goals against Rapid, while Rapid's coach, David Crosson, scored his side's opener with a spectacular overhead scissors kick from just inside the penalty area.

Rapid's Nick Cook is undecided about which club he will play for this season. Cook has been linked with both Caledonians — who have at last appointed Tommy Wright of Olympia as coach — and University. Cook has enrolled for a Bachelor of Education degree course at the University of Tasmania.

White Eagles star, Andrew Leszczynski, left Tasmania last year to join National League side, Brisbane Lions, for the 1984 NSL season. He made an immediate impact at Lions in pre-season training but returned to Tasmania last week having been unable to enrol at the University of Queensland.

I spoke to a very disappointed young Andrew shortly after his return to Hobart.

Pless: What went wrong in Brisbane?
LESZCZYNSKI: Things were going well over there as regards training but I couldn't get into university in Brisbane. That meant either giving up my education or my soccer. I thought my education was more important so I came back and I'll enrol at university here.

Were you impressed with the set-up at Lions?
LESZCZYNSKI: Yes, I was. I'd been there a while, for the whole of the pre-season training period, in fact, and the whole approach was very professional. The training was of a very high standard, both under Gordon Arrowsmith, and then, for the last few days that I was there, under new coach Harry Noon. The facilities were just first class.

Who will you play for now that you're back in Tasmania?
LESZCZYNSKI: I think it's going to be Juventus. I was due to go to Ulverstone with them yesterday but I've got a slight thigh strain after training this week with both University and Rapid.

You won't be playing with your former club, White Eagles?
LESZCZYNSKI: No, because they're only in the Rothmans League this year and if I'm to attain my ambition of playing in the National League I've got to at least play in the Tasman State League. I need a bit of exposure so people don't forget.

Would you like to go back to the mainland?
LESZCZYNSKI: Yes. In fact, I could have gone to Melbourne today for a trial with Heidelberg but my injury ruled that out. I'm really looking for a club in a place where I could also enrol at a university at the same time. If nothing comes up, I'll play in Hobart and go to university here this year and think again about next year. Lions have already told me that they'd welcome me back next year.

GRANBOURNE SOCCER CLUB

Senior players, including a goalkeeper, required for the 1984 season

Contact Trevor Mort
(059) 062 482

DIAMOND VALLEY SOCCER CLUB

Of the Provisional League Division Three

Requires Senior players for season 1984

For further information contact:
Ian McLuskie on 467 6553 AH
or R. Berners on 439 4536 AH

CORRECTION

The telephone number for Stephens Sport Travel is (02) 231 3833 and not (02) 231 3933 as incorrectly quoted in the National Soccer Annual.

Stephens Sport Travel
First For All Sporting Tours
(02) 231 3833

St George Budapest and Sydney City-Hakoah will meet in the NSW Ampol Cup final.

Bertogna, Kamasz

Arno Bertogna will return soon to train with ARIA after being away in Perth. He has been helping his mother with her business in Perth.

David Kamasz has joined ARIA from Dalmatinac in Perth. He is a forward who played at Newcastle before.

— KORNEL KAMPEAN

N.S.W. Ampol Cup semi-finals:

ST GEORGE BUDAPEST 1 (Slater 18th) CROATIA 0. At St George Stadium. Crowd: 3,150. Referee: Doug Rennie (injured 3' — Brian Fowler — 5). Yellow cards: Vidaic (Cr).

ST GEORGE: Fraser 7 — Skeen 8, Ratcliffe 8, M. O'Shea 8, R. O'Shea 8 — Barton 7, J. O'Shea 8, Stone 7 — Slater 8, Koczka 6 (Ricoy 69'), Marton 6 (Danaskos 58' — 5).

CROATIA: Watson 8 — Woods 7, Sterrey 7, Vidaic 8, Tomasich 6 — Basic 7, Rezo (Talic 68th), Meades 7 — Savor 6, Arnold 6, Clinch 6.

St George 1 Croatia 0

Saints keep marching on.

Sure it was a narrow victory, but quite a few chances were being — almost all of them missed by the winning team.

And while Croatia must be given credit for hanging in for 90 minutes to be beaten by a single goal, it should be mentioned that Marton, Slater and Co. could have made it a far more convincing victory.

Saints looked set to go into an early lead but for a lapse of concentration by the man in the middle, referee Brian Fowler.

Flick-header by Barton saw Slater with the ball and running for goal. With Vidaic to beat and having Koczka free

SAINTS TRIUMPH BUT AROK NOT PLEASED

on the right, it looked curtains for Croatia but in came Fowler with his whistle — giving Saints a free kick for a foul on Mark Barton!

However only a minute later Saints went into the lead.

John O'Shea found Koczka, a quick through ball for Slater and despite an attempt by Watson to come out and block the angle, Slater was cool and accurate, the ball finding the right hand corner of the net.

Slater came close again in the 33rd and 39th minutes of the first period. It was a despairing dive by Drago Tomasich that just clipped the ball

from Slater in the 33rd at a time when Slater looked set to score.

A cross Robert O'Shea saw Slater slip through to nudge it past Watson but alas, past the post too.

Andy Koczka was set to score midway through the second half after beating two tackles to face Watson but his shot went high over the bar.

Croatia was far from disgraced and had its own share of opportunities. Playing against the wind during the first period certainly showed that the side is capable of beating the best.

Brett Woods should have done better with his opportunity in the 53rd after a good run, but his shot went almost straight at Fraser. Only seconds later Fraser dived at the feet of Shane Clinch to save.

Clinch hit the net netting and then Arnold drove his header just over the bar in the closing stages of this semi-final but that was too little and certainly too late to cause St George much concern.

Despite this narrow but convincing win by Saints, Frank Arok was far from happy.

He replaced his star player, Dez Marton, with Tony Danaskos following some sloppy shooting by Marton and errors unusual for the old maestro.

By ALEX VESIC



So now the two most successful clubs in Australia in the past two years meet again. Saints beat Hakoah in the grand final two years ago and pipped the Bondi outfit in the closing stages of the 1983 championship to win the title by one point.



NSW AMPOL CUP

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH 1 (Fletcher 76th) MARCONI 0. At St Georges Stadium. Crowd: 3,150. Referee: Peter Rampley 8. Yellow cards: Cant, Barnes, Boden (H), Henderson (M).

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH: Clarke 7 — O'Rourke 7, Gomez 7, Cant 7, Lynch 8 — Kay 8, Barnes 7, Boden 8 — Rodrigues 7, De Marigny 6, Fletcher 7.

MARCONI: James 8 — Djordjevic 7, Caleran 7, Mariani 7, Licata 5 — Henderson 6, Budini 5, Carbone 5 — Lowe 5, Winn 5 (Carrizo 37' — 5).

The O'Shea brothers had a great evening. John O'Shea was most impressive, stopping an opponent one minute then sending his forwards into attack the next.

David Skeen blotted Shane Clinch out of the attack and used his speed to chime into Saints' attacking play, causing Croatia concern.

For Croatia it was Bruno Vidaic and Drago Rezo who showed the way, with Wally Savor making some strong runs during the second period.

Brett Woods, Steve Watson and Graham Arnold gave solid performances but yet again it was the engine room which caused Attie Abonyi much concern.

Marijan Kovacic is still sidelined. Croatia's most skillful player was at the ground but not in the side.

A 28-minute half: er, sorry, says ref

Doug Rennie started the match between St. George and Croatia as referee, left the field after three minutes with an injury. Brian Fowler, the linesman took over and an official of St George took the line!

Only a minute later it was Tony Boskovic who took the flag from the Saints official. Tony was not "dressed" for the occasion and after all he is retired, so in came Mr. Loupis who had been running the line during the first match, to replace Boskovic.

But that was not all. The first half lasted 43 minutes, with Rennie controlling the match for three minutes and Fowler for 40. The second half lasted 28 minutes and the referee blew his whistle, ending the match.

It looked short to the players, so Fowler was soon surrounded by them. Linesman was consulted and only then did the game continue for another 13 minutes — lasting 41 minutes.

Talk about value for money at soccer! There's never a dull moment.

Brennan

not budging

Five times clubs have bid for Canberra's striker Tony Brennan — and five times he has turned them down.

The bids — and most were particularly attractive — came from Brisbane Lions, Newcastle, Blacktown City (twice) and Inter-Monaro.

Canberra transfer listed Brennan many weeks ago but the big striker, recently engaged to a Canberra primary school teacher, must like the national capital.

Or is it that even if he stays he's in the box seat? Rumour has it Brennan's contract — with a season to run — provides a sizeable signing on fee — and he can get that, of course, without pulling on a boot.

PETER WINDSOR

Robertson

Former Newcastle KB United midfielder Stuart Robertson has joined Scottish Division One club Dumbarton.

Last year, Marconi attempted to sign Robertson, then on Exeter City's books, but instead he remained in England with Doncaster Rovers.

The diminutive Scot made only a handful of appearances for Rovers though and welcomed the move to Dumbarton.

O'Shea, Barton and Stone they have formidable foes.

John O'Shea has been particularly impressive, covering every inch of Barton Stadium in most games to date.

St George however, has the more formidable front line, with Dez Marton, Robbie Slater and Andy Koczka looking a more dangerous combination than Rodrigues, DeMarigny and Fletcher.

But despite the slight advantage Saints may have, it is difficult to predict the result.

Saints versus Hakoah, Arok versus Thomson, maybe not the dream final as far as the NSW Soccer Federation is concerned, but certainly a final worth seeing.

In the play-off for third place Croatia will meet Marconi and at this moment I would put my money on Croatia to take third place.

Cup final will be played at St George Stadium at 5 pm with the play-off for third place to be played at the same venue beginning at 3 pm.



Ken Boden

Fletcher's goal puts Hakoah into the final

Hakoah 1 Marconi 0

Hakoah eliminated Marconi from the Ampol Cup by the narrowest of margins but the score certainly flattered the losing side. Apart from the winning goal by Graeme Fletcher, four minutes from time, it was Hakoah all the way with chances going begging on quite a few occasions.

Marconi's fire-power looked awesome with David Lowe, Steve Winn and Rod Brown up front, but it was not to be. It took Marconi 61 minutes to send its first shot towards goal and that effort by Brown was, however, well saved by Clarke. A minute later, Raul Carrizo slammed one from just outside the box and Clarke was there again to save.

Believe it or not, that was the sum total of Marconi's effort on the night.

Its midfield looked sluggish, its forward line starved of service, wandered about without an idea or purpose, and in the end it was left to the back four to keep Marconi in this match.

But even that was not sufficient.

Hakoah managed to break through Marconi's backline on quite a few occasions only to waste some easy opportunities.

Ian Rodrigues almost surprised James with his angled drive after 16 minutes, then De Marigny came face to face with James but skied his shot

from eight metres. In the dying stages of the first half, it was James again to the rescue, with a brave dive at the feet of Fletcher to keep the scoreline blank.

Almost from the restart, Fletcher watched his shot whistle outside the far post. A shot by Gerardo Gomez was cleared off the line, then came Hakoah's brilliant move which should have had a goal written all over it. Kenny Boden's through pass found Lynch inside the area. The youngster took the ball down the line then cut it back to Rodrigues who shot hard from seven metres but straight at James. Such was the force of the shot that James had little time to react and the ball bounced off his body and away from goal to safety!

James made another great save in the 57th minute but looked beaten with 15 minutes remaining after Bertie Mariani failed to clear and Fletcher took the ball down the line then cut it back to Rodrigues who shot hard from seven metres but straight at James. Such was the force of the shot that James had little time to react and the ball bounced off his body and away from goal to safety!

But the youngster was to make mends 10 minutes later as a ball from Paul Kay found Fletcher just outside the box. He turned Mariani before hitting a well placed left footer wide of James for the winner.

Marconi coach Les Scheinman was disappointed but without Tom McCulloch, Tom Sermani and Joe Rizzotto, three of Marconi's best players last season, the Fairfield club realistically couldn't have done much better.

Marconi lacked cohesion. Tony Henderson, Ricky Budini and Attie Carbone were no match for Boden, Kay and Murray Barnes in midfield.

Bournemouth to Wolves?

Two players who helped Third Division Bournemouth knock mighty Manchester United out of this year's English F.A. Cup are keen to play for Wollongong City this season.

Striker Trevor Morgan, 27, and midfielder Phillip Brignull, 23, want to play for the



Wolves for 10 weeks at the end of the current English season.

The two played in the Bournemouth team which caused a major shock by knocking out Cup holder United 2-0 last month.

Bournemouth manager Harry Redknapp is negotiating with the Wolves after talks with Wollongong goalkeeper Ron Tilsted.

Tilsted, who has signed a one-year contract with the club, spent a short training stint with Bournemouth earlier this year and returned to

Bournemouth. Back row: Ivan Golac, Nigel Spackman, Phil Brignull, Tom Heffernan, John Impey, Kenny Allen, Ian Leigh, Trevor Morgan, Trevor Lee, Derek Dawkins, Steve Carter. Front: Tony Funnell, Kevin Dawtry, Harry Redknapp (manager), Mark Nightingale, Keith Williams, Milton Graham.

Wollongong with the good news.

Both Morgan and Brignull are aware of the fact that they appear to be quite reasonable in their demands. They are understood to be seeking their

— PHILIP MICALLER

CARRUM DOWNS SOCCER CLUB

Of the Provisional League Fourth Division, requires players aged 16 years and over for all positions.

The ground is situated at the Italo-Australian Club, on the Frankston-Dandenong Road at Carrum Downs.

For further details contact either Ray O'Donnell on 763 8861 or L. Benedos 204 536 BH.

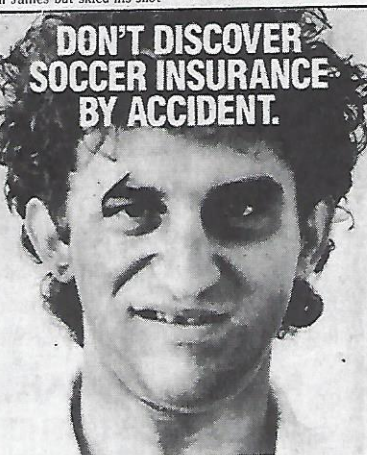
Moreland Midfielder

GUS PAOLA

Is seeking another club.

Gus is 21 years old and is a good club man.

Ring Tel. 489 1507 AH or 459 1955 BH



The most comprehensive policies available in soccer. Premium \$675 GET IT ON THE TEAM AND ASSIST TOWARDS THE FINANCING OF OUR WORLD CUP SQUAD.

For more information contact Geoff Inglis on (03) 699 6799.

R. E. Bott Insurance Brokers (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. 63 Stead St., South Melbourne.

Official Brokers to the Australian Soccer Federation.

BUFFALO
SPORTS

Croatia chases record cup win

By
LAURIE SCHWAB

Croatia won its first night soccer final in 1968, and if it beats Hellas in this year's final at Olympic Park on Saturday night, it will be the outright champion of the competition.

At the moment, Croatia and J.U.S.T. have won the series six times each, in its 29-year history.

Hellas has won it four times. That first triumph by Croatia back in 1968 came at the end of probably the best night final on record, but Saturday's game promises to be even better.

Neither team is preoccupied about nullifying the other's strengths.

Rather, they worry more about their own attacking game, meaning both sets of players will have room in which to play.

First, let's indulge in a bit of nostalgia. Let's go back to that thrilling 1968 final which serves as a pointer to what to expect on Saturday.

Croatia's opponent that night — March 8, 1968 — was Slavia, a power then.

The teams were:
CROATIA: 1. Kovacic, 2. Friganovic, 3. Gums, 4. McCarthy, 5. Bot, 6. Rau, 7. McIntyre, 8. McMeehan, 9. Vojtek, 10. Mackay, 11. Glaser.

SLAVIA: 1. Schroit, 2. Livingston, 3. Reed, 4. Randles, 5. Cook, 6. Goodwin, 7. Savage, 8. Jurecki, 9. Reid, 10. Kraus,



Hellas. Back row: Oscar Crino, Steve Blair, Ken Murphy, Mark Turudia, Steve Wooddin, Jim Kalambozakis, Alan Davidson, Bobby Russell. Front row: Con Kiakis, Doug Brown, Charlie Egan, John Yzendoorn, Pete Laumets, Carl Halford, Chris Kalifatidis, John Kanesoulis. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

11. Rainey.

Just a few words about some of those players.

BILL MCARTHUR: Later coach of Croatia. Croydon and Albion Rovers.

BILLY MCINTYRE: Later with Hellas, Macedonia, Albion Rovers, St Albans.

JIMMY MACKAY: The Soccerero who scored the goal that put Australia into the 1974 World Cup finals.

WILLIE SCHROIF: Czechoslovakia's goalkeeper in the 1962 World Cup final against Brazil.

JOE RANDLES: Played later for New Zealand, then coached Frankston Pines, Slavia and Melbourne.

BILLY COOK: Played for Australia.

BILLY VOJTEK: Played 31 internationals for Australia, won Bill Fleming Medal with Juventus, was player-coach of Ajax and Western Suburbs, now player-coach of St Albans.

HAMMY MCMEECHAN:

Australian international, played also for Juventus and Ajax among others, and now coaches Doveton.

JOCK GOODWIN: Strong, powerful, red-haired midfielder who later played for Juventus and Keilor-Austria, and who was judged best player of the 1968 night series.

It was all Slavia in the first half but Croatia goalkeeper Mike Kovacic stopped everything that came his way, to emerge as the man of the match.

Croatia improved after half time due to the midfield play of Mackay and Horst Rau, and it was from a pass by Mackay that Alfred Glaser — top scorer of the 1968 tournament — shot Croatia into the lead.

Goodwin equalised with a header in the 90th minute, pushing the match into extra time — 15 minutes each was played then, rather than 10 minutes each way.

It was Billy Vojtek who

scored the winning goal for Croatia in the second half of extra time, and it was Hammy McMeechan who provided Vojtek with the pass.

Hellas won it for the first time the following year, 1969, and again in 1970, 1976 and 1982.

Now it tries to prevent Croatia from establishing a competition record. Can Hellas do it?

There is one area in which Hellas appears superior to Croatia and that's in central midfield, where Oscar Crino and Carl Halford should have the better of Jeff Faulkner and Jozo Antolovic, unless the latter two have a dramatic turnaround in form.

On the flanks, Hellas appears to have more aggression and more tackling in Alan Davidson and Ken Murphy than Croatia has in Josip Biskic and Steve Gojevic. On the other hand, however, Biskic and Gojevic will be dan-



Croatia. Back row: Ossie Letif, Robert Markovac, George Hannah, Mate Grgic, Peter Blasby, David Brogan, Drago Deankovic, Jozo Antolovic. Front row: Tony Curcio, Steve Gojevic, Josip Biskic, Keith Adams, Jeff Faulkner, Tommy Cumming, Sean Parton.

gerous every time they get the ball, and it was they who destroyed Ajax in Croatia's 4-0 triumph in the 1983 State League Cup final, when they were up against opponents who, on paper, also appeared to be more physical.

In comparing the two sets of strikers, we can't ignore the fact that Croatia has scored twice as many goals as Hellas

so far. Croatia has notched eight goals (Brogan 4, Parton 2, Cumming, Biskic) and Hellas four (Brown, Murphy, Yzendoorn, French own goal).

Doug Brown and Charlie Egan certainly are good players, but on results gained so far, David Brogan and Tommy Cumming have the edge. It gets more confusing all the time, doesn't it? A winning

Croatia attack, but perhaps a winning Hellas midfield?

Then there's that old-fashioned, but oh so important commodity — motivation. That old, blood-and-guts feeling about wanting to go out there and win every ball, beat every opponent.

Work it out yourselves. All I'll predict is that it will be a hell of a game, and it probably will go into extra time.

The teams for the final, with shirt numbers:

CROATIA

- | | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Peter BLASBY | 12. Keith ADAMS | 3. Sean PARTON | 17. George HANNAH |
| 2. Tony CURCIO | 7. Jeff FAULKNER | 16. Jozo ANTOLOVIC | 9. Steve GOJEVIC |
| 8. Josip BISKIC | 10. David BROGAN | 11. Tommy CUMMING | |

HELLAS

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Peter LAUMETS | 12. John YZENDOORN | 5. Chris KALAFATIDIS |
| 2. Bobby RUSSELL | 8. Oscar CRINO | 7. Ken MURPHY |
| 3. Alan DAVIDSON | 10. Doug BROWN | 14. Charlie EGAN |

CURTAIN-RIASER, 6.30 pm: SUNSHINE-GEORGE CROSS v JUVENTUS. FINAL, 8pm: HELLAS v CROATIA.



Croatia's Tommy Cumming (right), shadowed by J.U.S.T. captain Igor Hazabont. Behind them is goalkeeper Lou Tsigaras. Pictures by LES SHORROCK.

Brogan bags three, but what a goal by Biskic!

Croatia 4
J.U.S.T. 0

And I thought that this would be a closely fought contest.

It was. For four minutes. Until David Brogan scored the first of his three goals, signalling the start of a Croatia onslaught which eventually crippled J.U.S.T. to the extent that Croatia players toyed with their opponents in the last 10 minutes.

In short, J.U.S.T. was completely outplayed and outclassed and if it can't find the money to buy at least three top class players soon, then it's going to maintain its tradition of struggling in NSL ranks.

Croatia, on the other hand, is on the threshold of NSL success. Coach Terry Hennessy keeps trying to convince his committee that with another couple of top class players, he'll have a side which can start to realistically eye the championship. But, if Croatia relies on its present squad, it may have to settle for a top four finish and that's not good enough as far as Hennessy is concerned.

It shouldn't be good enough

as far as the committee is concerned. And there's no doubting what Croatia fans not only want, but expect. Croatia must act and act quickly, if it wants to maintain the momentum generated by its fine showing in the Buffalo Gold Summer Cup.

And what a performance Croatia put up in this semi-final. All told, J.U.S.T. had two shots on target. One came from defender Gary McDowell. The other, a low shot in the 28th minute from Jaime Fernandez, easily was handled by Croatia goalie Peter Blasby, whose main task was to try and keep his concentration during long periods of inactivity.

Croatia fans took over the grandstand, singing, taunting, flag waving, and cheering every fine move, every goal and every near miss.

I was told after the match that it was young Steve Gojevic who passed to Brogan in the 4th minute for the opening goal. There was no way I could tell. For I had made the mistake of thinking that I would get a great view of the match from the grandstand. However, I was able, peering in between arms, legs, and a sea of flags, to watch Brogan turn sharply and rifle a low, 15

metre shot into the far corner of goal.

That was enough for me. I headed downstairs for an almost uninterrupted view. It also was enough for J.U.S.T. Some of its players dropped their heads, only lifting them when referee Chris Brambridge signalled an end to the slaughter.

Jim Davis never fell into that category. Quite the opposite. He trampled all over Tony Curcio in the 17th minute and should have been sent off instead, he escaped with a yellow card.

However, there was nothing crude about Davis's outstanding tackle on Brogan in the 21st minute. Tommy Cumming headed on to Brogan as J.U.S.T. got caught on the break. It was Brogan v Davis, with the path to the J.U.S.T. goal then open, but Davis slid down in great style to knock the ball clear.

Jozo Antolovic played a free kick, a minute later, into Cumming's feet. Cumming was well inside the J.U.S.T. area and neatly shielded, then laid the ball back for Antolovic who shot poorly from 20 metres.

Brogan missed a sitter in the 26th minute. Josip Biskic, at his bubbling best down the right, turned Joe Carroll inside-out, then chipped into the goal mouth. Brogan had a free header from six metres but completely mistimed it.

Brogan was unlucky not to score in the 33rd minute from a free kick. He tried to curl the ball over the defensive wall. It struck an opponent, and flew toward the top far corner until Lou Tsigaras spectacularly flung himself up and across to tip just over.

With four minutes left in this half, Croatia struck again. A Biskic corner to the far post, evaded everyone and fell at Sean Parton's feet. His shot was blocked and the ball was cleared. J.U.S.T. quickly pushed forward, but in a far from organised manner. Suddenly, a long ball in behind the J.U.S.T. defence, picked out

Brogan. Tsigaras charged out of goal but too late. Brogan neatly lobbed the ball over the head of the J.U.S.T. goalie and ran it into goal, despite the challenge of Vlatko Belic.

J.U.S.T. tried in vain to reorganise at half time. Off came Slobodan Stojcevski, no doubt relieved, and on came Zdravko Lujic. Graham Tuitill went to left back, Igor Hazabont to right back and Lujic played up front on the left.

Lujic was involved early in the second half. His pace could have given J.U.S.T. a much needed avenue to goal but Croatia right back Tony Curcio was more than a match for J.U.S.T.'s left winger. Curcio is very underrated. He's not just fast. He can play too. And he only cost a couple of thousand dollars from Juventus two seasons ago. What was the Juve committee thinking of at the time?

Brogan should have completed his hat-trick in the 71st minute. Antolovic played a great through ball to Biskic who cut in from the right and squared to Brogan, just five metres out, dead in front. Tsigaras was at Brogan's feet in a flash, smothering superbly and the chance was lost.

But Tsigaras was well beaten in the 76th minute and it was that little dynamo Biskic, who did it. A la Zico McDowell wasn't happy with referee Brambridge's decision to award a free kick against him for a foul on Brogan. It was Biskic who made the most of the situation, bending the ball into the top near corner of goal from 25 metres. It was a stunning piece of control.

A minute later, Cumming sent Brogan clear on the left. Brogan rounded Tsigaras, almost slipped, but steadied then drilled the ball high into the roof of the net from an acute angle.

It was 4-0. Croatia was rampant. J.U.S.T. was shattered.

— CRAIG MAC KENZIE

Dinamo wins Junior Cup

St Albans-Dinamo beat Heidelberg-Alexander 2-0 in the final of the Victorian under 13 Buffalo Summer Cup, played as the curtain-raiser to the J.U.S.T. v Croatia match at Olympic Park last Saturday.

Goalscorers were Vesolko Karacic and Anton Proca.

The squads:
ST ALBANS: Jozo Rados, Ivan Duzel, Mario Odak, Zeljko Ulanovic, Budimir Boban, Robert Colina, Peter Cvitkovic, Jozo Kalalo, Anton Proca, Eddie Hrbolic, Vesolko Karacic, Anton Ivanovic, John Galince, Augustin Krndjic, Jozo Knez.

HEIDELBERG: N. Samidlis, N. Katsis, D. Tabeles, V. Peppos, P. Rendis, L. Bekaris, S. Mangos, M. Mandoulidis, G. Nitsou, N. Papagianis, G. Mihailidis, G. Kyrouderalis, A. Giangoulidis.

Socceroos won't turn full-time

ASF secretary Brian Emery denied this week that the Socceroos may turn full-time professional for the latter part of their World Cup campaign, as reported in a Sydney daily newspaper.

"It's not at all economical, unless all 18 players were on the dole," Mr Emery said.

"Otherwise, how could you demand that players with good jobs simply give them up?"

"And the players are, after all, on contract to their clubs, not to the ASF."

RIVERSDALE SOCCER CLUB

A Camberwell based club needs experienced players, all positions.

Ring 836 7316 AH
or 836 3483 AH

BUFFALO
SPORTS

BUFFALO



SPORTS

OFFICIAL SPONSOR
TO V.S.F.



Flavell breaks leg in thriller

**Hellas 0
Makedonia 0**
Hellas won 6-5 on penalties

Hellas and Makedonia served notice that they'll be two of the big guns in the newly formed National Conference of the NSL with a spine-tingling semi-final which kept a big crowd riveted for over two hours of sometimes breathtaking action.

Hellas's slick interpassing going forward was a feature of the match, especially through the middle where Oscar Crino, Carl Halford, Doug Brown and Charlie Egan combined superbly.

The match remained scoreless and was forced into a penalty

showdown due to a combination of the goalkeeping heroics of Makedonia's Steve Potter, the refereeing of Peter Spiers, and the crossbar at the Swan Street end of the ground.

Egan must have wondered what he'd done wrong to deserve the treatment Potter gave him. The Makedonia keeper charged off his line and smothered brilliantly, almost at Egan's feet, in the 17th minute, and repeated the dose in the 64th minute. Brown too didn't escape lightly. Potter saved at Brown's feet in the 81st minute.

Referee Spiers played a significant role moments after Potter had foiled Egan a second time. As the ball ran free, Egan again got possession, with Potter trying to get back into goal. Egan played the ball into Halford's path. He rounded Potter and was about to score when he was flattened from behind by George McMillan. Referee Spiers was 10 metres from the incident. His positioning was excellent. His decision was dreadful. He waved play on.

Within 30 seconds, Zarko Odzakovic headed against the Hellas bar.

It was that kind of game. Both sides never dawdled forward. It was a pleasure to watch. Let's hope that this kind of fare is served up consistently in the NSL this year.

Hellas looked the better outfit from the outset. Not shackled with the man-marking responsibilities of their opponents, the Hellas players revelled in their comparative freedom. Makedonia coach Peter Ollerton had big McMillan marking Brown and Con Opatinis marking Egan. Ian Dobson was sweeper.

Flavell came off second best after tackling Brown in the 21st minute. Flavell tried to stand up but immediately collapsed and had to be carried off to the sideline. Further treatment didn't help and on came Alex Livingstone, who took over Flavell's midfield role.

Flavell will be sidelines for 16 weeks with a broken tibia. I always knew that he was a hard man but to try and stand up on a broken leg, like he did after first being injured, lets you know what sort of commitment is in the man.

Alan Davidson, playing his first game for Hellas since returning from overseas trials, got his head to an Egan cross but Potter got down and saved in style.

Steve Blair was doing a fine job on Gary Cole. Makedonia too often played the ball to Cole in the air, allowing Blair to use his superior heading ability.

Crino's skills played a significant part in a moment of high tension in the 83rd minute. It should have been the decisive moment of this absorbing contest. Crino, near the by-line on the right, delicately clipped the ball to the far post, setting up Brown for a free header, which amazingly went wide from three metres!

Makedonia was to return the gesture in the first half of extra time.

Nine minutes had gone when Campbell and Cole figure in a quick interchange on the left. Campbell played a great early ball to Lucchesi with Hellas caught too far behind. Lucchesi blew his chance by pushing the ball too far in front, allowing Laumets to challenge. The ball ran loose to Campbell, about 15 metres out on the left of the area. With Laumets struggling to recover and a Hellas defender desperately trying to cover for his stranded goalie by getting to the goal line, Campbell shot wide of the near post. That was the last good chance to the match.

The penalty showdown was every bit as exciting as the game. Cole was first and converted easily. So did Zenden. Campbell was next but his weak attempt was saved by Laumets. Brown had no trouble giving Hellas a 2-1 lead. Lucchesi made it 2-2, then Egan muffed his chance, shooting against the post and out.

Petrovski and Murphy made it 3-3. Odzakovic stepped up next. Laumets saved, but referee Spiers ruled that the Hellas goalie had moved too early and ordered a re-take. Odzakovic scored. So did Halford, making it 4-4. Ilioski and Russell converted, making it 5-5, then up walked McMillan.

The big defender had played his heart out but he was to blunder badly here. He had no trouble hammering in his first try but referee Spiers wasn't ready. McMillan missed with his second attempt.

It was sudden death. If Davidson scored, Hellas was in the Cup final. Laumets had no doubts. He casually walked towards the players' race, knowing that he would no longer be needed. Sure enough, Davidson didn't let him down.

— CRAIG
MAC KENZIE

WIN A BALL!

Here are this week's questions, the answers to which can be found in our National Soccer Annual, now on sale at your newsagents, price \$1.50.

The first correct entry received each week wins a Mitre Soccerball and all weekly winners go into the draw for a grand prize to be announced later, which will be drawn at the end of the season. This week's questions:

1. Which player scored most goals for the Australian National team?
2. Which is the most successful team in the National Soccer League?
3. Which team won the Victorian State League in 1977?
4. Which player was the top goalscorer in the WA State League in 1983?
5. Which team has won the Queensland Premier League in 1983?

Send your entries to:

Soccer Action Quiz,
603 Little Lonsdale St,
Melbourne, Vic. 3000

The winner of last week's quiz is V. HORVATH of 38 Ross Street, Sefton, NSW 2162.

Last week's correct answers are: 1. Alan Maher, 2. Paul Lewis, 3. Azzurri, 4. John Kosmina, 5. Ageron Muniz.

MELBOURNE HELLAS 0 PRESTON MAKEDONIA 0
a time. Hellas won 6-5 on penalties. Buffalo Gold Summer i-final at Olympic Park, last Friday night. Crowd: about autions: Halford (SMH), McMillan (PMI). Referee: Peter Spiers 5.

MELBOURNE HELLAS: Laumets 8 — Russell 7, Zenden 7, j. Kalambokis 90th). Hellas 7 — Davidson 7, Halford 8, Crino y 7 — Brown 8, Egan 8. Coach: Len McKendry.
ON MAKEDONIA: Potter 9 — Opatinis 7, McMillan 8, Dobson ski 6 — Flavell (inj. Livingston 24th, 5), Ilioski 7, Odzakovic 8 — jchessi 7, Campbell 7. Coach: Peter Ollerton.

OURNE CROATIA 4 (Brogan 4th, 41st, 77th, Bialick 76th)
RAY J.U.S.T. 0. Buffalo Gold Cup semi-final at Olympic t Saturday night. Crowd: about 8,000. Cautions: Davis, Curovic, Carroll (J.U.S.T.). Referee: Bambridge 8.

OURNE CROATIA: Blasby 7 — Curcio 8, Parton 8, Adams 8, i — Biskic 8, Antolovic 7, Faulkner 7, Gojevic 8 — Brogan 8, 8. Coach: Terry Hennessy.

CRAY J.U.S.T.: Tsigras 7 — Stojcevski 5 (Lujic H.T. 6), Davis 6, i 7, Hazabent 8 — Curovic 7, Belic 5, O'Donnell 5 — Fernandez 6, Tutill 6. Coach: Bobby McLachlan.

CRAY J.U.S.T. 1 (O'Donnell 2nd). GREEN GULLY AJAX mpic Park, Wednesday night. Crowd: about 500. Referee: John Fraser 6.

CRAY J.U.S.T.: Tsigras 7 — Davis 5 — Stojcevski 8, Hazabent 7 c 7, McDowell 6, Clayworth 6 (Petrov 48th min. 6), O'Donnell 7 (8, Belic 7, Tutill 6. Coach: Bobby McLachlan.

GULLY AJAX: Denys 6 — P. Beranic 7, Cannell 8, Kremers 7, — Mancinelli 5 (Toat 48th min. 7), Vassallo 7, Boyle 8, Williams rt 7, Smallman 5. Coach: Jimmy Rooney.

ix fails to break down J.U.S.T.

**U.S.T. 1
Ajax 0**

ay J.U.S.T.
a lucky sec-
ute goal
rom a corner
ian O'Donnell.

y and it was a beau-
curled the ball with
is left foot over the
Ajax players. The
ly jubilation to the
T. supporters.

It cost \$6 to watch
\$6 for 70 minutes of

far from breathtaking soccer,
when previously the same price
covered two games.

In the first half we saw J.U.S.T. control the game for about 25 minutes after the early goal. Curovic made a few runs from deep on the right side and Carroll was mostly on the end of the through balls by the J.U.S.T. midfield and was one of J.U.S.T.'s better players.

Belic was playing a surprise new position of centre forward in place of injured Paton.

O'Donnell and Tutill, who was still playing on the left wing in place of injured Lujic, also had plenty to do during this period but the game started to even up and Ajax got better organised in mid-field.

Stuart Cannell, who got himself injured during the game but kept going, was Ajax's best player. He was a true leader and dictated the game well from his sweeper's position.

Boyle and Williams were powerhouses in the midfield, winning most of the play.

McDowell had a quiet game by his standard and the inexperienced Clayworth held on in midfield but made little impact on the game. He was eventually substituted by Petrov who couldn't do much either.

Belic did move back to a more accustomed role in midfield and Petrov was pushed up on the right wing.

Overall, it was a disappointing game. J.U.S.T. never looked like

scoring again, apart from a header by McDowell in the 30th minute of the second half which went across the goal line, after some good play by Carroll and a cross by Tutill.

Ajax on the other hand, did not have enough depth up front to do much damage to the J.U.S.T. defence. It took control of the game for about 25 minutes at the beginning of the second half, but J.U.S.T.'s defence was very tight, playing an unusual three-man system. Stojcevski and Hazabent were marking Smallman and Smart, while Davis played sweeper behind them.

Davis was J.U.S.T.'s best player and won most of the high balls in his area as well as clearing in dangerous situations.

— KORNEL KAMPEAN

SOCCER CITY

129 Grey Street, St Kilda

Tel. 534 5559

The 1984 range of famous Puma boots
is now in stock

Professional..... \$79⁹⁹
Hard Ground..... \$54⁹⁹
All Round..... \$59⁹⁹
Ranger..... \$39⁹⁹



CHICO \$89⁹⁹



WORLD CUP \$89⁹⁹

ALSO THE NEW

TITAN \$24⁹⁹



PUMA BALLS

MATCH \$36⁹⁹

BUFFALO SPORTS

BUFFALO

Daglish lagged behind Boyle

From page one

Paul Lewis Peter said he wanted a transfer, but still wanted to play for the club until he got one. That was unacceptable and Jimmy Rooney said Peter shouldn't play at all. But he wanted me to play, even though I didn't fit into his plans.

"We're missing Paul Lewis's goals, of course. He was liable to score at any time, and when we score, we can afford to play a more relaxed game, and push the ball around a bit."

Boyle, 32, joined Ajax midway through the 1982 season, from Preston Makedonia.

"I've enjoyed it so much there that I've built a house in St. Albans, and we're moving in in about three weeks."

"I guess I should have accepted the coaching job when they offered it to me."

"That was when Bobby McLachlan left, to take over at J.U.S.T. He recommended me to the Ajax committee, but I told them I didn't think I was ready."

With Ajax, Boyle won two State League championships. He had left Makedonia for a \$6000 transfer fee. "Peter Orlerton (Makedonia's coach) and I, didn't see eye to eye," Boyle says.

When he first joined Makedonia from West Adelaide Hellas for \$7000, Boyle travelled to Melbourne and back to Adelaide for games every weekend. It wasn't until 1982 that he moved to Melbourne permanently.

Boyle came to Australia from Scotland in 1977 and played for West Adelaide until 1981. He and Neil McGachey were the key men in the West Adelaide team that won the 1978 NSL championship.

It was over a dispute with West Adelaide about his nephew Jim Hughes, that Boyle first left the club. "They signed him on a professional contract, even though he'd asked for an amateur form," Boyle says. "When I protested, they told me it was none of my business, so eventually, I went to Port Adelaide on loan."

Back in Scotland, he was a professional with Clyde. Playing as a centre forward or winger, he was Clyde's top scorer for three years.

In the Scottish League Cup one year, he outscored the great Kenny Dalglish.

"He went on to better things and I came here," says Boyle. Boyle's international career was about as short as any could be.

He was chosen by coach Rudi Gutendorf for a game against Czechoslovakia in 1980.

"Gutendorf told me I was in the squad because he'd had a lot of pressure from the Press to include me. He told me all the papers wanted to see me play for Australia, so I should go out there and prove them right."

"Anyway, with about 15 minutes to go, he told me to go out and, literally, kick the Czech No. 7 who was having a tremendous game. No joking!"

"It was hard enough getting into the play, without trying to kick this guy. If I did kick him, it mustn't have been hard enough, because Gutendorf wasn't happy at all. The player hadn't been carried off."

Boyle and Ajax have a reputation of being hard, tough and mean. Is it justified?

"I don't mind playing it hard," Boyle says, "and nobody takes liberties with me, but I'm not dirty by any means."

"And neither is the team. Sure, we were hard and physical, but we also had players with skill. We were the best pressing team I've played in. As soon as we lost the ball, we got close to our opponents and we forced them into mistakes. It was very effective."

Box Hill, Knox, Polonia up in arms over semi venue

By CRAIG MACKENZIE



Western Suburbs. Back row: Steve Kakantonis, George Borg, Billy Johnson, Fotis Alexopoulos, Chris Konstantinidis, Sam Matheou, Alex Filippis, Jimmy Condilis (coach). Front: Steve Dimovski, Billy Hammill, Tim Papachristodoulou, Domenic Diliberto, Bill Lazopoulos, John Condilis, Phil Diamantaris. Missing: Frank Mussel, High Howe, George Lekkas, Andy Esposito. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

Big Dockerty Cup win for Norths

North Dandenong marched into the first main round of the 1984 Dockerty Cup with a resounding 5-0 win over Ringwood United Serbia at Ringwood last weekend.

North's goals came from Davie Nelson, Arthur McMillan, Alistair Taylor, Neil Collyer and promising youngster Marko Roggero. McMillan, Taylor and Wally Oscitowski were North's best players.

Yallourn, thanks to goals in each half from McWhirter and Tommy Leckey, downed Waverley City 2-1. City's goal from Redmond, came with Yallourn two goals up, and although Waverley created chances it suffered from poor finishing.

Results of last weekend's second preliminary round:

Kew City 0 Springfield City 3; Hamlyn Rangers 0 East Brunswick 1; Thornstomson 3 Mooroolbark 0; Langwarrin 1 Holland Park 0; Yarraville 3 Bell Park 1; Ardner 1 South Oakleigh 3; Lalor United 3 Melbourne 1; Yallourn 2 Waverley City 1; Keysborough 0 Karingal 5; Ringwood United 0 North Dandenong 5; Hawthorn 1 Koorla Austria 0; Rossanna 0 Altona Gate 2; Mornington 6 Richmond 4; Greenborough 1 Prahran Slavia 4.

Back in Scotland, he was a professional with Clyde. Playing as a centre forward or winger, he was Clyde's top scorer for three years.

In the Scottish League Cup one year, he outscored the great Kenny Dalglish.

"He went on to better things and I came here," says Boyle. Boyle's international career was about as short as any could be.

He was chosen by coach Rudi Gutendorf for a game against Czechoslovakia in 1980.

"Gutendorf told me I was in the squad because he'd had a lot of pressure from the Press to include me. He told me all the papers wanted to see me play for Australia, so I should go out there and prove them right."

"Anyway, with about 15 minutes to go, he told me to go out and, literally, kick the Czech No. 7 who was having a tremendous game. No joking!"

"It was hard enough getting into the play, without trying to kick this guy. If I did kick him, it mustn't have been hard enough, because Gutendorf wasn't happy at all. The player hadn't been carried off."

Boyle and Ajax have a reputation of being hard, tough and mean. Is it justified?

"I don't mind playing it hard," Boyle says, "and nobody takes liberties with me, but I'm not dirty by any means."

"And neither is the team. Sure, we were hard and physical, but we also had players with skill. We were the best pressing team I've played in. As soon as we lost the ball, we got close to our opponents and we forced them into mistakes. It was very effective."

Boyle and Ajax have a reputation of being hard, tough and mean. Is it justified?

"I don't mind playing it hard," Boyle says, "and nobody takes liberties with me, but I'm not dirty by any means."

"And neither is the team. Sure, we were hard and physical, but we also had players with skill. We were the best pressing team I've played in. As soon as we lost the ball, we got close to our opponents and we forced them into mistakes. It was very effective."

Boyle and Ajax have a reputation of being hard, tough and mean. Is it justified?

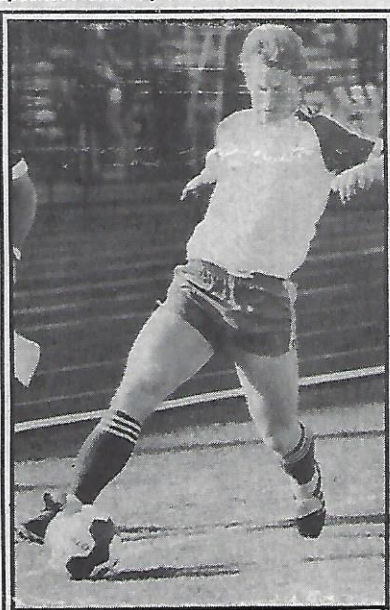
"I don't mind playing it hard," Boyle says, "and nobody takes liberties with me, but I'm not dirty by any means."

"And neither is the team. Sure, we were hard and physical, but we also had players with skill. We were the best pressing team I've played in. As soon as we lost the ball, we got close to our opponents and we forced them into mistakes. It was very effective."

Boyle and Ajax have a reputation of being hard, tough and mean. Is it justified?

"I don't mind playing it hard," Boyle says, "and nobody takes liberties with me, but I'm not dirty by any means."

"And neither is the team. Sure, we were hard and physical, but we also had players with skill. We were the best pressing team I've played in. As soon as we lost the ball, we got close to our opponents and we forced them into mistakes. It was very effective."



Paul Lewis in action for Ajax

It's Hellas or bust, says Paul Lewis

It's South Melbourne Hellas or bust for Green Gully Ajax dissident Paul Lewis, the hottest striking property on the Victorian market.

Anyone doubting Lewis's firm resolve to join Hellas should think again. We hear that Ajax offered him \$200 a game, \$5,000 to sign-on and free labor to build a house! Lewis would only have had to pay for materials.

So what's the attraction offered by Hellas?

"It's not the money, because I haven't even discussed terms with Hellas. I just want to play in a side that's going to do something this year and as far as I can see, Hellas is the best side to play for. They'll do a better job in the NSL than Green Gully," said Lewis.

Lewis, who joined Ajax from the U.K. in 1981 and has been the leading State League

scorer for the past two seasons, immediately had a \$30,000 fee slapped on his head by Ajax when he told it of his fierce desire to move.

Lewis is appealing against the fee and a date for his hearing will be set by the NSL next Monday, February 27.

Heidelberg and Ajax agreed recently on a transfer fee for Lewis of \$25,000 but Lewis rejected Heidelberg's contractual terms.

Lewis is hoping to have his fee reduced at the NSL hearing to around \$15,000. If it is, you can bet your bottom dollar that Ajax will appeal.

—CRAIG MACKENZIE

STARS AT NORTHCOTE

The Northcote Cup will be staged at John Cain Reserve this Sunday and will feature stars such as Juan Toro, Ante Bilaver, Serge Sabbadini and Carlo Sabidussi.

Toro, the little Chilean ball wizard, transfer-listed by Heidelberg United, will play for Northcote. Bilaver will line-up for St Albans Dinamo, whose player-coach Billy Vojtek,

was hopeful of signing Bilaver, Dennis Morovic, Mate Boric and George Radman, all from Croatia, as we went to press. Sabbadini and Sabidussi will play for Bulleen. Metro Third Division club Port Melbourne also will contest the Northcote Cup.

The first match, between Dinamo and Bulleen, will kick off at 2.30 pm, followed by the Northcote and Port Melbourne clash. The final, featuring the two winners, kicks off at 5pm.

Roll up, roll up! To the mighty Buffalo Cup. Venue: North Crinigan Reserve, Morwell. Just a hop, skip, and a 180 kilometre jump from Melbourne.

Yes folks, it's Buffalo Cup semi-final time, and in keeping with the attitude which prevails under an equatorial sun, the VSF has decided to make three Melbourne-based clubs — Polonia, Knox City and Box Hill — travel to a far from neutral venue for Sunday's penultimate cup showdown.

The VSF is totally uncoordinated. It's out of touch with the realities of the game," said Box Hill coach Bill Murray.

Knox caretaker coach Trevor Owen echoed Murray's sentiments and Polonia is far from happy with the choice of semi-final venue.

Nevertheless, Polonia looks likely to win a place in the final, despite Knox City's outstanding effort in the cup so far. Knox, which takes on Polonia at 1.30 pm in the first of Sunday's semi-final double header, is hoping that sweeper Tim Tunstall will be fit in time for this clash.

Tunstall has been one of Knox's better performers so far in the cup but he's struggling to throw off the effects of a coked thigh, incurred last weekend against Box Hill.

Stuart McTurk also has a coked thigh but caretaker coach Trevor Owen, deputising for Eric Lesbirel, who is overseas, was confident that McTurk would be fit to face Polonia. Not that Knox is short of a quality replacement.

Should McTurk be unavailable, young Corrado Nobile will play in goal.

Knox will be boosted in mid-field by the return, from holiday, of experienced Duncan Smith, the former Croydon player.

Tom Keenan, a midfielder from Birmingham in England, has impressed Knox officials recently and is expected to sign shortly.

Polonia probably will use Noel Mitten and Janusz Prybyla up front. They are the most accomplished pair to take on the Knox defence so far in this cup as Box Hill, Wilhelmina, Frankston Pines, Doveton, and Northcote were the other participants in Knox's group in the preliminary rounds. It's interesting to note that Knox's only loss was in last weekend's game against Box Hill. The Hillmen had Peter Verechia and English import Steve Smith up front, and we hear that Smith was most impressive.

Polonia should win. The second semi-final, between Morwell and Box Hill, looms as a real nail biter.

Pedro Ramos may make a surprise appearance in the Box Hill line-up. Andy Hughes, who was holidaying last weekend, will be back as will Brian Keenan and Paul Priestley. Keenan dislocated a shoulder playing indoor tennis last Friday, while Priestley has been nursing an ankle injury.

But where will coach Murray fit in this quartet?

Murray has the pleasing problem of having his strongest squad available so far in the cup but wondering who should be left out.

Morwell too will be back to full strength after striker Russell Athersych was forced to miss last weekend's clash with Broadmeadows due to injury. Harry Bingham was late for the bus which left Morwell and took players, officials and supporters to Laura Douglas Reserve last Sunday and was disciplined by being left out of the side. However, Bingham's a certain starter here.

Gerry Clarke was understandably uncomfortable up front against Broadmeadows and against Wilhelmina will revert to his more customary sweeper's role against Box Hill. With Athersych and Bobby

McGuinness up front, that leaves Tony van Baar, Steve Moore, Jim MacLean, John O'Callaghan and Chris Kent vying for four midfield positions.

Morwell will start favorite in most people's minds. Not so, in mine. There's little to choose between these outfits. While Morwell, man for man, appears to have the classier line-up, Box Hill is noted for its tremendous spirit and work rate, and as a team unit, the Hillmen combine very well.

I'm not brave enough to predict outcome.

Back to the venue controversy.

"We want to promote soccer in the Latrobe Valley," said VSF secretary George Wallace.

"Anyway, the State League clubs agreed to using Morwell for either the semi or the final in a recent meeting."

That suggests that at least three State League clubs need to improve communications between their coach and State League delegate.

Morwell coach Jimmy Dunne can have the final say.

"Remember that we had to travel to Melbourne for mid-week matches. No-one seemed to think that we were hard done by then."

Buffalo Cup details

SECTION A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Knox City.....	5	4	0	1	7	3	8
Box Hill.....	5	3	1	1	6	3	7
Wilhelmina.....	5	2	2	1	6	3	6
Frankston Pines.....	5	1	2	2	3	4	4
Northcote.....	5	1	1	3	3	7	3
Doveton.....	5	1	0	4	3	9	2

SECTION B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morwell Falcons.....	6	4	2	0	15	3	10
Polonia.....	6	4	1	1	16	6	9
Fawkner.....	6	4	1	1	14	10	9
St Albans Dinamo.....	6	3	0	3	10	12	6
Western Suburbs.....	6	2	1	3	9	12	5
Broadmeadows.....	6	1	1	4	6	10	3
Albion Rovers.....	6	0	0	6	5	20	0

KNOX CITY 0 BOX HILL 1 (White 50th) at Egan Lee Reserve, last Sunday

KNOX CITY: Noble 8 — Russell 7, Tunstall 8 (inj. Healey H.T. 7), Bissinger 8, Dixon 7 — Murray 7 (Hawthorn 80th), Murray 7, Rodella 8 — Gerrish 7, Masters 7, House 7. Coach: Trevor Owen (caresaker).

BOX HILL: McKinlay 6 — McPhee 6, Tolmie 6, Lawler 7, A. Roodhouse 7 — Azzopardi 7, Underwood 7, McDonald 8 — Verechia 7, Smith 8, White 7. Coach: Bill Murray.

NORTHCOTE 1 (Wilson 34th) FRANKSTON PINES 0 at John Cain Reserve, last Sunday

NORTHCOTE: Giannopoulos 7 — Wright 7, Katsakidis 8, Cutler 7, Mihos 5 — Wilson 7, Guilety 7, Cullinan 8 (inj. Manuella 65th), Dineopoulos 6, Rosetto 7, Constantinos 6. Coach: Tony Vrina.

FRANKSTON PINES: Kovac 7 — Wilson 6, Thurlow 7, Cummings 7, Beach 6 — Cooke 6, Miller 6 (Bruce 60th), Cullen 6 — Dick 6, Sancer 5 (Runje 55th), O'Halloran 7. Coach: Danny McMillan.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 3 (Stewart 20th, Warzawski 39th, 56th) DOVETON 0 at Jubilee Park, last Sunday.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Law 6 — Meyer 7, Remmers 6, Corke 8, Verniers 7 — Whyte 6, Warzawski 6, Shannon 8 — Bakker 6, Burton 7, Stewart 7. Coach: Rudi van Aalbe.

DOVETON: Ryan 6 — McLeod 7, Miller 7, Lalera 6, Fitzpatrick 8 — Holmes 6, Edmondson 5, Nelson 6, Roggero 6 (Kilner 50th) — Webster 6, McCormack 5 (Jones H.T. 7). Coach: Hammy McMeachen.

BROADMEADOWS 1 (Watson 45th) MORWELL FALCONS 1 (Clarke 62nd) at Laura Douglas Reserve, last Sunday.

BROADMEADOWS: Grech 6 — Schikine 7, Visini 7, Donaldson 8, Ellis 8 — Watson 8, Stolkus 7, Pocock 8 — Vasic 5, Vaccaro 7, Liberto 7. Coach: Dave O'Connor.

MORWELL FALCONS: White 7 — Brunst 7, Moore 7, Higham 8, Train 7 — MacLean 6,

O'Callaghan 7, Kent 6 — T. van Baar 6, Clarke 6, McGuinness 6. Coach: Jimmy Dunne.

ST ALBANS DINAMO 1 (N. Batovic 18th) FAWKNER 2 (Cazzella 38th, 68th) at Churchill Reserve, last Sunday.

ST ALBANS DINAMO: Leacock 6 — Macfarlane 5, Brinkley 7, Madio 6, Justina 5 — Isak 6, Vojtek 7, Pavlovic 5 — N. Batovic 18, Bruno 6, Krolo 6. Coach: Bill Vojtek.

FAWKNER: Tardis 8 — Gooney (inj. Petrocchi 20th, 8), Fattore 8, Giacconi 5 (Vesnaver 45th) — Palilina 5, Shannon 7, Palmarcic 7, Lie 8 — Tuffield 7, Cazzella 8, Sannipoli 6. Coach: Gus Macleod.

WESTERN SUBURBS 3 (Hammill 12th, Lazopoulos 26th, Diamantaris 50th) ALBION ROVERS 1 (Wilson 18th) at Chaplin Reserve, last Sunday.

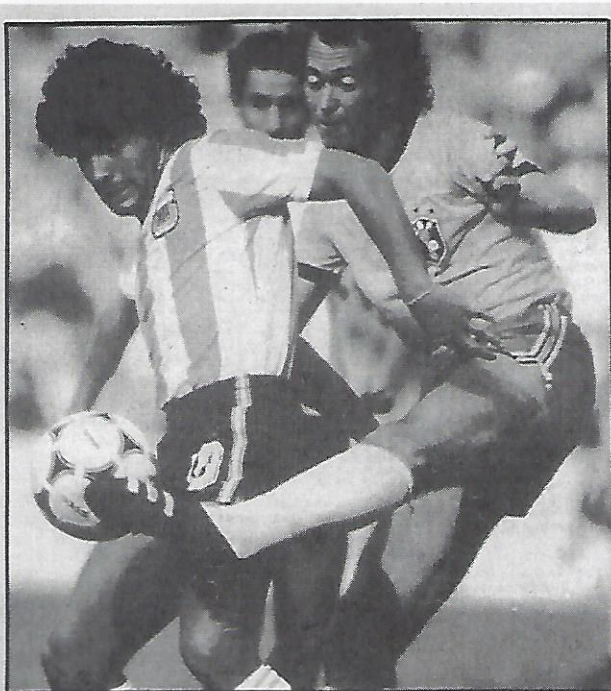
WESTERN SUBURBS: Alexopoulos 6 — Borg 6 (Matheou 50th), Dimovski 7, Kalamitoulas 7, Lekkas 7 — Hammill 7, K. Coyte 7, Papachristodoulou 7 — Diliberto 6 (Diamantaris 18th), House (Knox) MacLean 6. Coach: Jimmy Condilis.

ALBION ROVERS: NOT AVAILABLE.

ALL THE SCORERS

7 — Cazzella (Fawkner)
5 — Athersych (Morwell)
4 — McGuinness (Morwell), Sannipoli (Fawkner), Krynski, Przybyla (Polonia), Bruno (Dinamo),
3 — Vojtek (Dinamo), Watson (Broadmeadows), Bakker (Wilhelmina),
2 — Hughes, Verechia (Box Hill), Lesbirel (Doveton), N. Batovic (Dinamo), Vaccaro (Broadmeadows),
1 — Vojtek (Polonia), Filippis (Suburbs), D. Silva (Albion), Warzawski (Wilhelmina), House (Knox), MacLean (Knox),
1 — Valentine, White (Box Hill), Dimovski, Constantinos, Wilson (Northcote), Webster (Doveton), Cooke, Spencer, O'Halloran (Pines), Istok (Dinamo), Penzo (Broadmeadows),
1 — Tron, Viten, G. Czapak, Gibbon (Polonia), Esposito, Papachristodoulou, Hammill, Lazopoulos, Diamantaris (Suburbs), Palmarcic, Giacconi, Lie (Fawkner), Stuart, K. Coyte (Albion), Stewart (Wilhelmina), Gerrish, Bissinger, Gurney, Lesbirel, Masters (Knox).





Brazilian star Falcao (right) tackles Argentine's Diego Maradona during the 1982 World Cup finals.

Zinni rubbed shoulders with Falcao and Conti



Andrew Zinni

By LAURIE SCHWAB

It's been just over a year since Andrew Zinni kicked the ball around with Roberto Falcao and Bruno Conti.

That was during Zinni's training stint with AS Roma in Italy, arranged for him by Italo Accorcia, coach of the Italian team that was here for the World Youth Championship in 1981.

Zinni was a raw, wide-eyed kid then.

Today he's on the way to becoming the Conti of Australia.

John Margaritis is his coach at Juventus (Vic), and he's

done a lot to develop Zinni's talents, but the coach who deserves most praise for the emergence of this young star is Tony Boggi, who picked him

out from among the young hopefuls at Port Melbourne.

Zinni, 19 on March 8, is a Melbourne University student, in the second year of a Building course — a mixture of engineering and architecture — which eventually will qualify him as a project manager or construction engineer.

During his stint with Roma, he trained with the club's under 19s, coached by former Italian international Romeo Benetti.

Zinni was there for about six weeks.

Falcao, Conti, DiBartolomei and the other Roma stars, encouraged Zinni and often had

kickabouts with him.

At the end of the trial, Roma asked Zinni to stay on and play.

Tor Roma's under 19 team, but he had his university studies to return to.

Now he's poised for his first season in the National League — and he'll be one of its brightest stars, there's nothing

surprised.

Such a name would have been known nation-wide had it not been for two injuries last year.

The first, sustained in a game against Ajax, prevented him from going to train with the Australian youth team in Sydney. So did the second, sustained against Doveton.

And so, as the young Soccer Australia star, Zinni was left behind, pondering what might have been had it not been for those tackles that put him out of action.

Such is his speed, his verve, his skill, that Zinni became a marked man in the Victorian State League last year.

"I exposed myself too much to hard tackles, I made myself a target," he says.

"Now I'm learning to protect myself. John Margaritis is teaching me to shield the ball properly and avoid injuries.

Also, new midfielder John Dowie, is giving me the type of service I need, which is a great advantage."

If Zinni is one of the entertainers who will draw the crowds back this year, who, in his opinion, are the others?

He mentioned only one — but he used the most glowing of terms.

"Tommy Cumming of Croatia," he said.

"He can create something out of nothing."

"I'd love to be like him."

"You feel it throughout the stadium, as soon as he gets the ball. He gets the crowd's undivided attention straight away. They cheer him on, they wait for what he's about to do. He earns enormous respect from the crowd, and from all the players. He's an outstanding personality in Australian soccer."



Andrew Zinni (left) about to slip past Melbourne Croatia stopper Sean Parton. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

Zinni also had kind words for his team mate Pat Bannon — that inspiring centre-back who was captain of Heidelberg-Alexander in the NSL.

"He's always been behind me. He's always been there to encourage and inspire me. When I'd had a bad game, he's

said: 'Don't let anything get you down. You can overcome it.' The same goes for his brother, Vince. He's been a big help to me too."

Zinni started playing soccer at the age of eight, with the Melbourne-Hungaria juniors. His coach was Left Jensen, former Victorian State junior

coach, and his team-mates at Melbourne included Mike Petersen (now with Heidelberg), Gordon Livingston (Frankston Pines) and Danny Zemunik (Croatia juniors).

Zinni played as centre forward or on the wing, and his best goalscoring year was in the under 10s, where he scored 83.

Jensen kept the team together for five or six years, and then moved it, intact, to Hakoah, as an under 13 outfit.

That year, Zinni was appointed captain of the Victorian State under 13 side. He was in the State team that won the national under 14 title in Adelaide in 1979, and continued to represent Victoria up to under 16 level.

From Hakoah, he moved to Port Melbourne, where he played from under 13 to under 16 levels. His coaches there were Stratos Kalegeros (ex-Hellas), Stan Hackett and Hans Petersen (ex-Wilhelmina and Hakoah), and during that time, Port Melbourne was league champion three years in a row, and won the State under 14 and under 15 titles.

In 1981, Zinni toured New Zealand with the State under 16 team, which returned unbeaten. Zinni, with seven goals, was the team's top scorer, and now senior clubs sat up and started to take notice.

"That tour is what really set me off," Zinni recalls. "Tony Boggi came down to Port Melbourne to have a look at me, and invited me to Juventus."

"Well, I'd been going to Juventus matches with my father (Joe) since I was three, so naturally I'd always wanted to play for them eventually. I'd never played a senior game when I went down there, but I started training with them, and it didn't take long before I got a few half-games and then full games. I had about six games in all, and I scored four goals."

He ran for the Brighton Athletic Club until he was 12, he represented Victoria in the 100 metre hurdles at under 10 level, he represented Christian Brothers College in St. Kilda every year for six years; won the Associated Catholic Colleges 100 metre hurdles title three times; and also equalled the ACC record for that event, although he competed also in other events, up to 400 metres.

Has he ever come up against a defender who's faster?

"I don't think so," was his understatement.

His most satisfying goal?

"It would have to be the one I scored against Croatia in the Buffalo Summer Cup, not only because it was the equaliser, but because Croatia had been built up to be such a good team, and because they wanted to prove themselves better than us after we'd beaten them twice last year. That maintained my record against Croatia. I've scored against them every time I've played them. Last year I got the second one when we beat them 2-1, and in the return game I scored the first as we started our lightning, from being two goals down, to win 3-2."

"My goal in the Buffalo Cup broke the ice for me. I needed something to give me confidence for my first season in the big time."

More than 6ft. tall, he uses his body well, he's good in the air and fast too.

Adelaide Juventus will meet Juventus (Vic) in a friendly game at Olympic Sports Fields, Adelaide, at 2.30 pm on Sunday, February 26.

Tommy Cumming

Clive Eaton



Clive Eaton

In addition to the weekly NSL fixture, the two clubs intend taking part in the QSF's XXXX tournament, the major pre-season competition in Brisbane.

Lions have managed to get their XXXX games scheduled for Wednesday nights, which should give them some handy early season match practise. But City will be playing on Friday nights — only two days before their NSL matches.

Apparently City directors asked for Friday night games, saying many of their supporters would not attend a Wednesday night clash.

In addition to the two NSL sides, the tournament will feature the 10 new Premier League clubs, as controversially chosen recently by the QST restructuring committee. The tournament carries \$6000 in prizemoney and should be dominated by City and Lions, with possible Ipswich or Mount Gravatt having a chance.

Former Brisbane City and Lions striker Barry Kelso has returned to his former club Redlands, which now plays in the QSF's Intermediate League (Second Division).

Kelso, who with 40 NSL goals is by far the highest Queensland National League scorer, made the move after he lost his driver's licence and found it difficult to get to training at either City or Lions, where he played on loan last year. Redlands, about 20km outside of Brisbane, is near Kelso's home.

Kelso made his return for the Baysiders in the Coca-Cola Bottlers pre-season tournament at Lannam Park recently. Although he showed his old speed and brilliant heading ability, Kelso's shooting was well off target and Redlands went down 3-1 to Rochedale.

Brisbane's two NSL clubs City and Lions, will play two games a week for the first month of the national league.

Cork, Eaton for Lions; Kelso to Redlands

Former Croydon and Ringwood Wilhelmina player David Cork is set to sign for NSL club Brisbane Lions.

Cork, 24, trialled with the Queensland club last week after he was brought to Brisbane by new Lions coach Harry Noon.

Noon had seen Cork play in Sydney, when he had a spell with Sydney Olympic, and knew of his background in England with Manchester United and Doncaster.

Noon long ago had decided that if he ever coached an NSL team he would strongly consider signing Cork, whom he believes has not yet shown his full potential in Australia.

Cork is one of three interstate players Noon has brought to Brisbane over the past fortnight in an attempt to strengthen the Lions team, which finished bottom last season.

Former Western Suburbs and Sydney Olympic striker Clive Eaton, who has 31 NSL goals to his credit, played in two trial games for Lions last weekend and probably will be signed.

Eaton played under Noon last year at NSW State League club Kuringai.

Noon also wants to sign another Kuringai player.



Ricky Rosso

Steve Knight, who was expected to arrive in Brisbane this week for trials. Knight, a lanky but strong player, is likely to be slotted into the Lions midfield.

Eaton and Knight are understood to have maximum transfer clauses in the contracts with Kuringai, and could prove to be bargain buys for Lions.

After watching Lions play several trials, Noon is now evaluating his squad and if the three interstate players are signed it would not surprise if a similar number from last year's squad are put on to the transfer list.

No names have been mentioned yet, but indications are there may be at least one surprise.

Meanwhile, former Newcastle United striker Bob Mountford has begun settling in at Brisbane City and is likely to play a key role in the side's attack this season.

Makedonia to appeal on Dobson fine?

Preston Makedonia was fined \$750 and its player Ian Dobson fined \$1,000 last week as the result of an NSL hearing on charges brought against Makedonia and Dobson by Melbourne Croatia.

Dobson signed a contract with Croatia late last year, flew to England for a holiday and on his return, signed with Makedonia. Dobson's club Croydon came to terms with Makedonia over a transfer fee for the stopper after transfer negotiations with Croatia broke down.

Neither Croatia nor Makedonia was happy with the result of the hearing.

"We expected a far heavier fine to be imposed on both Dobson and Preston. We thought that the NSL would make an example of the player in order to discourage other players from signing contracts with different clubs," said Croatia spokesman Frank Burin.

"We've lost a player we counted upon to strengthen our team in the NSL this year and he's going to be very hard to replace."

"I'm amazed and astounded at the verdict," said Makedonia president John Branov.

"We'll be appealing against the decision provided the appeal is heard in Melbourne and the fee for lodging an appeal isn't exorbitant," he added.

Mistake in fixtures

The 1984 NSL fixtures printed in "Soccer Action" last week contained the wrong information for round 21.

The correct games for round 21 on August 18/19 are:

AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE: Blacktown v Syd. Croatia, Marconi v Penrith, Newcastle v St. George, Syd. City v APIA, Syd. Olympic v Brisbane City, Wollongong v Melita Eagles.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE: Briss. Lions v Makedonia, Juventus v Adel. City, Foots. JUST v Cambera, Heidelberg v G. Gully Ajax, Sun-George Cross v SM. Hellas, West Adel v Melb. Croatia.

Readers are advised to attach this information to the fixtures we published last week.

Gatenby joins Flounders, two Juve's to meet

Neville Flounders and Mark Gatenby have been reunited at Adelaide City Juventus.

Gatenby, 23, and Flounders played together at Witney Town in the English Southern Premier League.

Flounders has been a tower of strength in Juve's defence for some seasons. Gatenby joins him from New Zealand club Rangers United.

Gatenby, a striker, scored all three goals in Juve's recent 3-0 victory over Croatia in a practice match. He also scored against Beograd.

More than 6ft. tall, he uses his body well, he's good in the air and fast too.

Adelaide Juventus will meet Juventus (Vic) in a friendly game at Olympic Sports Fields, Adelaide, at 2.30 pm on Sunday, February 26.

European Football Championship 1982-1984

Fixture List of the Preliminary Round

Group 1

(Belgium, German Democratic Republic, Scotland, Switzerland)		
6.10.82	Belgium - Switzerland	3-0
13.10.82	Scotland - German Democratic Republic	2-0
17.11.82	Switzerland - Scotland	2-0
15.12.82	Belgium - Scotland	3-2
30.3.83	Scotland - Switzerland	2-2
30.3.83	German Democratic Republic - Belgium	1-2
27.4.83	Belgium - German Democratic Republic	2-1
14.5.83	Switzerland - German Democratic Republic	0-0
12.10.83	Scotland - Belgium	1-1
12.10.83	German Democratic Republic - Switzerland	3-0
9.11.83	Switzerland - Belgium	3-1
16.11.83	German Democratic Republic - Scotland	2-1

Group 2

(Poland, USSR, Portugal, Finland)		
8.9.82	Finland - Poland	2-3
22.9.82	Finland - Portugal	0-2
10.10.82	Portugal - Poland	2-1
13.10.82	USSR - Finland	2-0
17.4.83	Poland - Finland	1-1
27.4.83	USSR - Portugal	5-0
22.5.83	Poland - USSR	1-1
1.6.83	Finland - USSR	0-1
21.9.83	Portugal - Finland	5-0
9.10.83	USSR - Poland	2-0
28.10.83	Poland - Portugal	0-1
13.11.83	Portugal - USSR	1-0

Group 3

(England, Hungary, Greece, Denmark, Luxembourg)		
22.9.82	Denmark - England	2-2
9.10.82	Luxembourg - Greece	0-2
10.11.82	Luxembourg - Denmark	1-2
17.11.82	Greece - England	1-2
15.12.82	England - Luxembourg	9-0
27.3.83	Luxembourg - Hungary	2-6
30.3.83	England - Greece	0-0
17.4.83	Hungary - Luxembourg	6-2
27.4.83	England - Hungary	2-0
27.4.83	Denmark - Greece	1-0
15.5.83	Hungary - Greece	2-3
1.6.83	Denmark - Hungary	3-1
21.9.83	England - Denmark	0-1
12.10.83	Hungary - England	0-3
12.10.83	Denmark - Luxembourg	6-0
26.10.83	Hungary - Denmark	1-0
16.11.83	Greece - Denmark	0-2
16.11.83	Luxembourg - England	0-4
3.12.83	Greece - Hungary	2-2
14.12.83	Greece - Luxembourg	1-0

Group 4

(Yugoslavia, Wales, Bulgaria, Norway)		
22.9.82	Wales - Norway	1-0
13.10.82	Norway - Yugoslavia	3-1
27.10.82	Bulgaria - Norway	2-2
17.11.82	Bulgaria - Yugoslavia	0-1
15.12.82	Yugoslavia - Wales	4-4
27.4.83	Wales - Bulgaria	1-0
7.9.83	Norway - Bulgaria	1-2
21.9.83	Norway - Wales	0-0
12.10.83	Yugoslavia - Norway	2-1
16.11.83	Bulgaria - Wales	1-0
14.12.83	Wales - Yugoslavia	1-1
21.12.83	Yugoslavia - Bulgaria	3-2

Group 5

(Italy, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Sweden, Cyprus)		
1.5.82	Rumania - Cyprus	3-1
8.9.82	Rumania - Sweden	2-0
6.10.82	Czechoslovakia - Sweden	2-2
13.11.82	Italy - Czechoslovakia	2-2
13.11.82	Cyprus - Sweden	0-1
4.12.82	Italy - Rumania	0-0
12.2.83	Cyprus - Italy	1-1
27.3.83	Cyprus - Czechoslovakia	1-1
16.4.83	Rumania - Italy	1-0
16.4.83	Czechoslovakia - Cyprus	6-0
15.5.83	Sweden - Cyprus	5-0
15.5.83	Rumania - Czechoslovakia	0-1
29.5.83	Sweden - Italy	2-0
9.6.83	Sweden - Rumania	0-1
21.9.83	Sweden - Czechoslovakia	1-0
15.10.83	Italy - Sweden	0-3
12.11.83	Cyprus - Rumania	0-1
16.11.83	Czechoslovakia - Italy	2-0
30.11.83	Czechoslovakia - Rumania	1-1
22.12.83	Italy - Cyprus	3-1

Group 6

(FRG, Austria, Northern Ireland, Turkey, Albania)		
22.9.82	Austria - Albania	5-0
13.10.82	Austria - Northern Ireland	2-0
27.10.82	Turkey - Albania	1-0
17.11.82	Northern Ireland - FRG	1-0
17.11.82	Austria - Turkey	4-0
15.12.82	Albania - Northern Ireland	0-0
30.3.83	Northern Ireland - Turkey	2-1
30.3.83	Albania - FRG	1-2
23.4.83	Turkey - FRG	0-3
27.4.83	Austria - FRG	0-0
27.4.83	Northern Ireland - Albania	1-0
11.5.83	Albania - Turkey	1-1
8.6.83	Albania - Austria	1-2
21.9.83	Northern Ireland - Austria	3-1
5.10.83	FRG - Austria	1-2
12.10.83	Turkey - Northern Ireland	1-0
26.10.83	FRG - Turkey	5-1
16.11.83	FRG - Northern Ireland	0-1
16.11.83	Turkey - Austria	3-1
20.11.83	FRG - Albania	2-1

Group 7

(Spain, Netherlands, Republic of Ireland, Iceland, Malta)		
5.6.82	Malta - Iceland	2-1
1.9.82	Iceland - Netherlands	1-1
22.9.82	Netherlands - Republic of Ireland	2-1
13.10.82	Republic of Ireland - Iceland	2-0
27.10.82	Spain - Iceland	1-0
17.11.82	Republic of Ireland - Spain	3-3
19.12.82	Malta - Netherlands	0-6
16.2.83	Spain - Netherlands	1-0
30.3.83	Malta - Republic of Ireland	0-1
27.4.83	Spain - Republic of Ireland	2-0
15.5.83	Malta - Spain	2-3
29.5.83	Iceland - Spain	0-1
5.6.83	Iceland - Malta	1-0
7.9.83	Netherlands - Iceland	3-0
21.9.83	Iceland - Republic of Ireland	0-3
12.10.83	Republic of Ireland - Netherlands	0-3
16.11.83	Netherlands - Spain	2-3
16.11.83	Republic of Ireland - Malta	8-0
17.12.83	Netherlands - Malta	5-0
21.12.83	Spain - Malta	12-1

As organizers of the Final Tournament France are exempt from the preliminary competition.

England, Holland to Brazil

England and Holland, both of which failed to qualify for June's European Championship finals, will instead participate in a six-team tournament staged to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Brazilian federation.

Uruguay, Argentina and Mexico have also accepted invitations, to join host Brazil as Latin America's representatives.

The first stage of the tournament will consist of two groups of three teams, with the section winners contesting the final.

For obvious reasons, England and Argentina are to be kept apart, unless they win a place in the final.

SOCCER AROUND THE WORLD

Valkeakosken Haka — ha, ha, ha!

The clash between Liverpool and Benfica, both former holders of the European Champions' Cup, stands out in the quarter-finals of this year's Cup, on March 8 and 22.

By PAUL MOON

Liverpool looked to be at its thoroughbred best when winning at Athletic Bilbao and certainly has sufficient all-round strength to go all the way and claim a fourth crown in the May final set for Rome, the scene of its first triumphs in 1977.

Benfica, runner-up in last year's UEFA Cup, is beginning to regain the look of a viable contender and, under the guidance of wily coach Sven-Goran Eriksson, has served notice it intends to emulate the great "Eagles from Lisbon" of the early '60s.

The outcome of this tie

could well depend upon the form of enigmatic Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar, whose errors led to the English champions' elimination by Poland's Widzew Lodz at this stage last season.

Roma, largely through the presence of Falcao, Conti and Cerezo, is the bookmakers' favorite to lift the trophy on its home turf, but first it faces a tricky encounter with Dynamo Berlin before reaching the semi-finals.

The Berliners, East Germany's champions for the past five years, have yet to make a sustained impression in Europe and are unlikely to enhance their record this time. Though a tough nut to crack, crack they probably will.

Dynamo Bucharest, shock conqueror of holder SV Hamburg, faces its namesake from the USSR, Dynamo Minsk, in what promises to be an interesting tie.

Minsk has also been impressive in earlier rounds and, overall, looks to be too strong for the Rumanians.

Scotland's Dundee United has won many admirers in Europe this term and is expected to overcome the unexciting Rapid Vienna.

United never has progressed beyond the quarter-finals but if able to reproduce the form displayed against Standard Liege, should emulate neighbour Dundee which reached the last four in 1983.

Scotland has an excellent chance of having two representatives in the European Cup semi-finals for the first time since 1972, as holder Aberdeen must be favored to beat Ulster Dossa in the Cup Winners' Cup.

Despite its victory over Cologne in round two, on away goals, the Budapest side rarely has risen above mediocre in recent years.

Surely the most clear-cut tie of them all concerns Juventus, whose team sheet reads like a European All Star XI, and Valkeakosken Haka — the first Finnish side to qualify for a quarter final.

Not only are the Finns totally outclassed on paper, but they must also play their "home" leg on neutral territory, as Finland's grounds are under snow and ice at this time of year.

Hopefully, the pay-out Haka receives for its endeavors will make the experience worthwhile.

The matches featuring Portugal's Oporto, despite the presence of free-scoring Fernando Gomes, and the USSR's Shakhyor Donetsk are not likely to set the pulse racing with excitement, for neither has a great tradition in Eu-

ropean football and their current strengths suggest that the eventual winner will not advance beyond the semi final.

In contrast, whoever survives the Barcelona v Manchester United collision will stand alongside Juventus as an obvious challenger for ultimate success.

The return of Maradona might tip the scales in Barca's favor, but the present "Red Devils", when at their best, are a match for anyone.

It will be interesting to see how Bryan Robson, rated so highly in Britain, fares against Maradona.

If Manchester United and Liverpool succeed in their tasks, England's clean sweep of Europe, which Fleet Street predicts with monotonous, arrogant regularity every August, will take a big step towards fruition, for Nottingham Forest and Tottenham Hotspur should advance into the UEFA Cup semi-finals without great difficulty.

Both meet unfancied Austrian opponents — FK Austria and Sturm Graz, neither of which can be classified as a world beater — though the former, with Koncilja, Prohaska and Nyilasi in its line-up, is clearly no lightweight either.

But, only sub-standard performances by the Englishmen are likely to bring joy to Austria.

Hajduk Split and Sparta Prague, clubs with long, proud histories, continue their mutual quest for a first European final when they meet.

Sparta won acclaim as a potent young unit when disposing of Watford and probably has a slight edge.

Last year's winner, Anderlecht, can anticipate a hard fight from the resolute Spartak Moscow, but here the greater polish and professionalism of the Belgians should be the deciding factor.

Bye, Keegan

Kevin Keegan is to quit the game at the end of the current season.

The former England captain, announcing his retirement on his 33rd birthday, said he wanted "to quit at the top and I really feel I'm still there".

Keegan, a former European Footballer of the Year, played for England 64 times in a glittering 16-year career which began at Third Division Scunthorpe United and took him to Liverpool — where he was named his name — SV Hamburg of West Germany, Southampton and Newcastle.

In his six years at Liverpool, he won three English League Championship titles, the European Cup of Champions, two UEFA Cup trophies and the English F.A. Cup.

Countries underlined have qualified for the finals in France this year.



• LEFT: Organisers of the Hawaiian World Soccer Crown, from left: Susan Harrington, Sharon Kahi, David Kahi, Patty Calvan, Dennis Minga, Peter McKibbin, Jane Pino, George Long, Sarah West, Neil West, Adolf Kinberger and Des Bolton.

Hawaii — sun, surf, soccer

The annual Royal Hawaiian World Soccer Crown will be contested in Honolulu from March 19 to 25 — one of the highlights of world amateur soccer.

Competing teams from all over the world mix their soccer with a taste of the tropical paradise that is Hawaii.

The "Hawaiian Experience" takes in lazy afternoons on Waikiki beach, glamorous nights in the Honolulu hot spots, and the sights and sounds of Oahu.

Australian teams take note!

Get in early, and you can take part next year.



Soccer action from the Hawaiian World Soccer Crown final between Langley (Canada) and Laguna (Hawaii) at Aloha Stadium last year.

Crvena Zvezda, Etoile Rouge, Roter Stern, Estrella Roja, Stella Rose or Red Star:

By PAUL MOON

From the re-organisation of Yugoslv soccer after the Second World War, through the present time, Red Star Belgrade has been at the forefront of domestic soccer.

Its 14-league championships and 10 Yugoslv Cup wins are both records and have assured Red Star of an almost permanent entry into the major European cups.

Yet, Red Star never has captured one of these. It can be stated with some conviction that it is the most famous European club not to have the Champions' Cup, Cup Winners' Cup or UEFA Cup adorn its trophy room.

Referred to as Crvena Zvezda, Red Star, Etoile Rouge, Roter Stern, Estrella Roja or Stella Rose, respect has been earned throughout the continent.

It was on a journey back from a hard-fought draw with Red Star that Manchester United was decimated by the Munich air disaster. It was against Red Star that Panathinaikos staged its remarkable comeback to become the first Greek club to reach a European final in 1971. It was Red Star that produced one of the most remarkable exhibitions of quality soccer seen in Britain when Liverpool was eliminated from the 1973-74 Champions' Cup and it was Red Star that beat Dynamo Berlin in the UEFA Cup five years later, despite being four goals down with half an hour of the tie remaining.

Only once has it reached a final — in 1979, when Borussia Mönchengladbach took the UEFA Cup through an Allan Simonsen penalty.

Perhaps Red Star's greatest claim to fame is the number of great players who have worn its colors — names to make Yugoslv soccer fans misty-eyed.

Arguably, the king of them all was Dragoslav Sekularac, a gypsy, whose glorious ability was handicapped by an explosive temperament.

In total contrast to Sekularac, Rajko Mitic never was booked in over 600 senior games, in which he accumulated 548 goals.

Vladimir Beara is remembered as one of the great goalkeepers of the 1950s. A former ballet instructor, he was remarkably supple.

In more recent times, Dragan Dzagic was capable of giving any full back a nightmare when storming down the left wing.

Formed in 1945 from the ashes of the old Belgrade University Club, Red Star today has only tenuous links with the university.

Like all top Yugoslv clubs it constantly suffers from the loss of players through military service. It is impossible to calculate what it would have achieved with a more stable personnel.

Red Star's key men:

TOMISLAV IVKOVIC: This 27-year-old joined Yugoslavia's international squad last year. Won a championship medal with previous club Dynamo Zagreb, where he was a teammate of Eddie Krncevic.

BOSKO DJUROVSKI: Made his full international debut as substitute against Wales in 1982. A resolute defender, the 25-year-old has yet to establish himself in Yugoslv side.

MITAR MRKELJA: The 18-year-old "wonder boy" moved from Partizan last year. He made his full international debut while still at school early in 1982. An exciting striker, many expect him to be the sensation of the European Championship in June.

MILAN JOVIN: Able to play at right or centre back, he has made sporadic appearances for Yugoslavia since his debut in 1979. A member of Red Star's UEFA Cup final side.



Milos Sestic

MILOS SESTIC: A 27-year-old forward, he joined Red Star from school. Earned 13 under 23 caps before graduating to full international level and made 10th senior appearance in last World Cup finals. Club captain.

MARKO ELSNER: Formerly with Olimpija, the talented linkman moved to Belgrade in 1983. Aged 22, he was drafted into the Yugoslv squad prior to crucial European Championship game in Wales.



The Red Star stadium in Belgrade.

IT ALL MEANS CLASS!



Dragoslav Sekularac

England strives for a brave new world

England will attempt to regain its position as a leading football nation by pouring massive funds into a school of excellence for 14 to 15 year olds.

The scheme, a lifetime dream of England manager Bobby Robson, has been made possible through a four-year sponsorship deal announced by General Motors, the American company, which is believed to amount to about \$1.56 million.

English Football Association secretary Ted Croker said the idea was that the best available young players should be prepared as early as possible for a career in international football.

The scheme will provide about 30 boys with the finest football education in the land at Lilleshall, in the Midlands, where they will have boarding facilities at a new \$776,300 block and general schooling at a local school.

France has been operating a similar course for several years, starting with 16-year-olds, and the fruits of its initiative have been plain to see, most notably in the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain where France reached the semi-finals.

Robson is committed to preaching the gospel of skill rather than tactics and to cutting out the mass of competitive matches which, he feels, ruins many schoolboy players.

Dave Sexton, one of the most experienced and respected coaches in the game, will be in overall charge of the boys' soccer education.

Robson said it would take eight years for their labours to bear fruit and there was no guarantee that brilliant international footballers would be the result.

A less cautious view came from Arsenal manager and England coach Don Howe who said: "It's the best thing to happen to English football since winning the World Cup in 1966."

'Aussies can't play soccer': Johnston

Liverpool's Australian-born player Craig Johnston admitted in an interview with "The Star" newspaper in London that his big mouth often has landed him in trouble in England.

The 23-year-old Johnston never pulls punches in his interviews with the Press and openly has criticised the managements at Middlesbrough, where he started his English career, and Liverpool.

Johnston recently asked Liverpool for a transfer after being dropped from the first team and criticising manager Joe Fagan.

He was not granted the transfer. Many critics

believe the reason was that Liverpool sees him as a successor to champion midfielder Kenny Dalglish.

Johnston seems to have cemented a first team place at Liverpool now, with some fine performances, but should he lose his spot, he probably will give manager Fagan another blast.

"I can't help it," Johnston said. "My mouth tends to get me into trouble. This was part of the reason I had to leave Middlesbrough."

"I told a few truths about the chairman. People up there hate me now. They delight in spitting on me."

"Near the end of my stay at Sykesmo Park they kicked my car in, smashed all the windows and burgled my house twice."

Johnston has not had to endure treatment like

that at Liverpool, where he said he wants to be a team player, not a squad member.

"If staying at Liverpool means being dropped now and again, I'll leave tomorrow," he said.

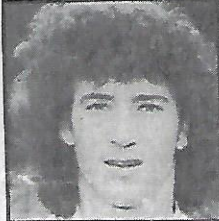
"If I'm out of the team I'm like a bear with a sore head. I want to be in there fighting — all the time."

Johnston, though, has no illusions of grandeur about his status as a player.

"I've no pretensions to having any great skill, so don't call me great," he said. "Just good."

"In my midfield position I can rely on Graham Souness and Kenny Dalglish to guide me along so I don't need a football brain or tactical awareness, which I don't believe I possess anyway."

"Football brains are born into you. That's why we Aussies can't play soccer, 'cos it's not been bred down the generations."



Craig Johnston

Youths of '81 WYC star for Uruguay

By PAUL MOON

Three members of Uruguay's 1981 World Youth Championship side, which flattered to deceive and lost to Rumania in its Melbourne quarter final, were vital cogs in their country's Copa America winning team last November.

Disappointing in Australia two years ago, Nelson Gutierrez, Carlos Aguilera and Enzo Francescoli now can be considered national heroes.

It was Aguilera's trophy-securing goal, just 15 minutes from the end of the second leg of the final against Brazil in Uberlandia, which inspired wild celebrations throughout South America's smallest republic.

Still only 19 years of age, Aguilera now has justifiable claims to being Uruguay's best player and certainly was the revelation of the Copa. He finished 8th in America's Player of the Year poll.

Small, nuggety and quick, he can play anywhere in attack, but is probably best on the right wing where his exceptional dribbling ability can take it all.

Bought from River Plate (Montevideo) for

\$250,000 last year, Aguilera helped his new club, Nacional, win the 1983 Uruguayan championship.

Almost equally revered, though for vastly different reasons, Gutierrez displays the other face of Latin American football — the robust, cynical defender, who is intent upon stopping an opposing forward by whatever means possible.

Yet, Gutierrez has skill — sufficient enough for him to be utilised as an international class player for both Uruguay and his club Penarol.

Despite his tender age, he already has played for Copa Libertadores, Toyota Cup and, now, Copa America winning sides.

Enzo Francescoli came of age in the Copa America, fulfilling some of the potential which Buenos Aires' River Plate obviously detected when paying Wanderers \$370,000 to acquire him last April.

An exceptional ball-carrier, he also possesses a deadly shot from dead ball situations and put the first kick in Brazil's coffin with a brilliant free kick in the Montevideo leg.

With international football today being at a particularly low ebb, Uruguay is confidently looking towards the next Mundial to confirm its resurrection as a world power.

Gutierrez, Aguilera and Francescoli appear likely to play a prominent part in the arousal of South America's sleeping giants.

...and Gabor tops too

Romulos Gabor, voted best player of the 1981 World Youth Cup, has established himself as a vital cog in the Rumanian senior side which, somewhat surprisingly, headed Sweden, Italy and Czechoslovakia to qualify for the European finals.

Making his full international debut against Switzerland a month after returning from Australia, Gabor was far from an immediate success at this level — being either substitute or substituted 11 times in a run of 17 appearances.

During the latter stages of the European Championship qualifying round though, he "came of age" looking every bit the part of a seasoned campaigner.

Remembered as a left winger in Melbourne and Adelaide, Gabor now plays alongside the big, bustling Rodion Camataru as Rumania's spearhead.

Only one other bronze medalist from three years ago played a part in the latest Rumanian triumph. Powerful sweeper Mircea Radnic has graduated to senior international status — proving to be one of his country's most consistent performers over the past year.

— PAUL MOON

Alan Hudson back

Alan Hudson is back in English League soccer with Stoke City after playing in North America for four years.

The former Chelsea, Stoke, Arsenal and England star is on a one-month loan to Stoke from Chelsea, the club he joined on his return from America.

It is Hudson's second stint with both Chelsea and Stoke City and he hopes Stoke signs him, especially after his brilliant performance against Arsenal recently.

Speaking on BBC Radio after the 0-3 defeat at West Ham, Hudson said: "I've got a hell of a lot to prove. I've got to throw so much into one month it's unbelievable. I've got to prove to so many people I'm worth Stoke keeping me on, and even if Stoke don't keep me on someone else might be interested."

"I feel that I can get success because I'm determined to do it. I don't care about people having a go at me in the papers and on the television. That's all in the past now. Someone even had a knock at me on Saturday after the match and said I'm inconsistent. That's a load of bull. I think my strength is my consistency and my determination to do well and I just wish people would get off my back."

— WALTER PLESS

Foreigners OK in Italy

The Italian Federation has confirmed that Series A teams will retain their right to field two foreign players next season.

The decision was made despite objections from Serie B and C clubs, who fear a widening gap between Italy's elite clubs and themselves.

However, as a measure to aid Italy's World Cup chances, no new foreigners can be acquired between June of this year and the 1986 Mundial.

Imports who have yet to prove worth — Hansi Mueller and Luther Blissett are among the most obvious — will have until the end of the current season to justify their presence.

It is unlikely that clubs will persevere with them, knowing they cannot recruit replacements for two years.

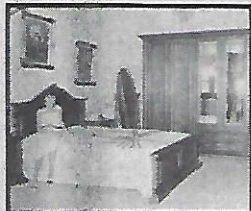
Cameroon in Olympics

Cameroon assured itself of a place in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics football tournament after drawing 1-1 with Ethiopia in their second leg final round qualifying clash.

The 4-0 victory established during the first leg clinched victory for Cameroon on a comfortable 5-1 aggregate.

Cameroon is now certain to be one of the three teams to represent Africa at the Los Angeles Olympics.

Midfielder Hunde opened the scoring for Cameroon in the 50th minute when he scored from outside the penalty area, Ethiopia equalising 10 minutes later through winger Bitew Abire.



**DIRECT
TO
PUBLIC**

Schipano
HOME FURNISHERS



IMPORTERS AND MANUFACTURERS OF FINE FURNITURE



Il calendario della Lega Nazionale è veramente qualcosa di geniale

La nuova Lega Nazionale a due gironi darà il calcio d'inizio alla stagione 1984 fra due settimane, e precisamente il week-end del 3 e 4 marzo. Oltre al nuovo formato, la competizione è particolarmente interessante quest'anno per la tifoseria italiana con l'inclusione della Juventus di Melbourne nel campionato nazionale.

Indubbiamente però la maggior parte dei tifosi, non solo italiani, sarà molto confusa dal calendario della competizione; cerchiamo perciò di far luce su questo piccolo mistero.

Immediatamente è bene mettersi in mente che questo calendario è comprensibile e funzionerà, invece di decidere a priori che è impossibile capire qualcosa e che solo Dio sa cosa succederà di settimana in settimana.

Quindi bisogna non farsi confondere dalla complicata nomenclatura usata per distinguere i due gironi e le sezioni che formano i gironi.

Alla resa dei conti, abbiamo due gironi (e fin qui è tutto semplice, anche se invece di gironi si chiamano "conferenze"), per renderci la vita più facile chiameremo il girone di Sydney "Girone Nord" ("Australian Conference") e quello di Melbourne "Girone Sud" ("National Conference"), (anche se sappiamo benissimo che Brisbane, geograficamente, è più a Nord di Sydney, ma nel calcio australiano ogni tanto è necessario fare atti di fede). Il girone Nord ha due sezioni (A e B) ed il girone Sud ha tre sezioni (A, B e C) secondo lo specchio che riproduciamo in questa pagina.

Le squadre della sezione A del Girone Nord giocheranno andata/ritorno con tutte le altre squadre della stessa sezione (18 partite); una volta sola con le squadre della sezione B dello stesso girone (2 partite); una volta sola con le squadre della sezione C del Girone Sud (2 partite). Quindi ci sarà Marconi-Apia e Apia-Marconi, ma solo Apia-Brisbane City, Apia-Adelaide City e

Apia-West Adelaide (per queste partite senza "ritorno" al campo di casa viene deciso dalla NSL con un calcolo biennale). In totale vi saranno 22 partite "Normali".

Più o meno la stessa cosa per il Girone Sud dove le squadre della sezione A (che sono 8, invece di 10 come nel Girone Nord), giocheranno andata/ritorno con tutte le altre squadre della stessa sezione e della sezione B dello stesso girone (18 partite); una volta sola con le squadre della sezione C della stessa girone (2 partite); una volta sola con le squadre della sezione B del Girone Nord (2 partite). Quindi ci sarà Juventus-Heidelberg e Heidelberg-Juventus, Juventus-Adelaide City e Adelaide City-Juventus, ma solo Juventus-Brisbane City, Juventus-Brisbane Lions, Juventus-Canberra e Juventus-Newcastle (anche qui per le partite senza "ritorno" deciderà la Lega quale è il campo di "casa"). In totale vi saranno 22 partite "normali".

E fin qui dovremmo esserci con le partite "normali", cioè quelle fisse di calendario. Quindi fermiamoci un attimo a fare la prima considerazione importante: con questo sistema apparentemente complicato ma in effetti molto semplice, il concetto della competizione a carattere nazionale è quanto mai reale poiché le squadre di Melbourne giocheranno contro le squadre di Adelaide, di Brisbane, di Canberra e di Newcastle.

E quelle di Sydney? Ed anche per queste è stato trovato il modo di farle incontrare con le squadre di Melbourne con l'invenzione dei "challenge matches", cioè "partite sfida" tre volte all'anno (settimana diciottesima e ventidicesima giornata) le

VIVA ITALIA!

with ROCKY DI ZIO

GIRONE NORD (Australian Conference)

Sezione A

1. Apia-Leichhardt
2. Blacktown
3. Marconi
4. Melita Eagles
5. Syd. Olympic
6. Parrish Utd.
7. St. George Budapest
8. Sydney City Hawks
9. Sydney Croatia
10. Wollongong

Sezione B

1. Canberra Arrows
2. Newcastle KB Utd.

GIRONE SUD (National Conference)

Sezione A

1. Heidelberg-Alexander
2. St. Melbourne Hellas
3. Preston-Makodina
4. Footscray-JUST
5. Melb. Croatia
6. Juventus
7. Green Gully Ajax
8. Sun. George Cross

Sezione B

1. Adelaide City Juventus
2. West Adelaide Hellas

Sezione C

1. Brisbane City
2. Brisbane Lions

partite "normali" vengono sospese e ogni squadra del Girone Nord giocherà con la squadra del Girone Sud che si trova nella stessa posizione in classifica, cioè la prima in classifica del Girone Nord con la prima in classifica del Girone Sud, la seconda con la seconda e via di seguito. Con questi "challenge matches" l'incrocio di tutte le 24 squadre diventa totale (ammesso che le classifiche non produrranno delle incredibili coincidenze a così lungo intervallo di tempo) ed il numero delle partite giocate da ogni squadra sale a 25.

Inoltre altre tre volte all'anno vi saranno "challenge matches" fra le squadre dello stesso girone (chiamati "intra conference"), mentre le altre fra i due gironi si chiamano "inter conference"; in questo caso la prima in classifica incontra la seconda in classifica, la terza incontra la quarta, e così via.

La prima giornata del campionato è appunto una "intra conference challenge", ma non essendoci ancora una classifica, gli accoppiamenti sono stati fatti dalla NSL, cercando di creare partite di cartello ed evitare viaggi. Questo tipo di "challenge matches", oltre ad incrociare ulteriormente le squadre dello stesso girone, apporterà un certo livellamento dei valori e probabilmente maggiore interesse dando alle squadre di fondo classifica l'opportunità di guadagnare due punti contro squadre della stessa lega.

A conclusione del campionato ci sarà una finale a cinque in tutti e due i gironi che si concluderà con la grande finale di girone il 28 ottobre; le due vincitrici delle gran finali di girone si incontreranno per la finalissima nazionale su base di due partite (andata e ritorno), giovedì 1 e domenica 4 novembre.

Ultima nota, dopo la dodicesima giornata il campionato osserverà quattro settimane di sosta durante le quali ci saranno partite internazionali.

Ed una precisazione: i punti conquistati nelle partite "challenge" saranno validi per la classifica del girone di appartenenza delle squadre.

Così, tutto sommato, il nuovo sistema dei due gironi è indubbiamente una trovata geniale che conserva il carattere nazionale della competizione, elimina il costante viaggiare delle squadre e crea più partite intracittadine alle quali assisteranno i tifosi di ambedue le squadre. Naturalmente però, essendo una cosa nuova e minuziosamente organizzata, è sempre possibile che possa intervenire qualche maleaugurato intoppo. C'è da augurarsi però che tutto fili dritto e che alla fine della stagione il calcio australiano abbia fatto un ulteriore passo avanti.

COPPA NOTTURNA

Tornando al calcio attuale; dopo l'eliminazione della Juventus dalla coppa notturna, la competizione si avvia alla sua conclusione con la finale di sabato prossimo (8 pm) fra Croatia e South Melbourne Hellas.

I croati hanno surclassato il JUST per 4-0 mentre i greci hanno sdoganato le proverbiali sette canie per aver ragione del Preston (alla fine hanno prevalso con i rigori dopo un risultato ad occhio 2 conclusioni dei tempi supplementari).

A proposito della partita Hellas-Preston, nonostante la mancanza di marcature, è stata una delle più interessanti partite che abbiamo visto da lungo tempo e i quasi 10.000 spettatori (incasso di circa \$40 - \$50.000) certamente hanno assistito ad uno spettacolo che valeva i \$8 di entrata. Partite del genere, più di ogni provvedimento amministrativo, saranno quelle che ricreeranno per strada il calcio australiano. La finale di sabato fra Hellas e Croatia non dovrebbe essere da meno.

BUFFALO CUP

Nell'ultima giornata di eliminazione della "Buffalo Cup" il Fawcner ha battuto il St Albans per 2-1 senza però riuscire a qualificarsi per le semifinali.

I ragazzi di Jukes Road

hanno concluso con 9 punti, come il Polonia, ma sono stati condannati dal quoziente reti. Considerando che fino ad ora la squadra ha impiegato molti giovani giocatori questo risultato è di tutto rispetto e fa ben presagire per il campionato, quando ulteriori rinforzi saranno arrivati (Frank McLeod e Peter Boyle Dovrebbero firmare in questi giorni).

Purtroppo però la partita contro il St Albans probabilmente significherà la fine della stagione 1984 per Les Gooney che solo la settimana scorsa aveva ripreso a giocare dopo un anno di assenza a causa dell'infortunio al ginocchio; questa volta sembra che Gooney abbia subito un altro infortunio allo stesso ginocchio e dovrà sottoporsi ad operazione.

Le semifinali della Buffalo Cup vedranno perciò in lizza Morwell (che ha pareggiato con il Broadmeadows) contro Box Hill e Polonia contro Knox City e le partite avranno luogo domenica prossima a Morwell. Se questa decisione sul terreno di gioco può sembrare un po' generosa verso il Morwell (facciamo viaggiare tre squadre da Melbourne con pochissimi dei loro pochi tifosi disposti a seguirli) non bisogna dimenticare che la VSF, nella sua infinita saggezza, pensa ancora alla decentralizzazione del calcio in questo stato! Fortuna loro che il Morwell non è semplicemente una buona squadra di calcio, ma anche e soprattutto un club sociale organizzatissimo, attrezzatissimo ed ottimamente amministrato; altrimenti la benesita decentralizzazione della VSF andrebbe a farsi proprio benedire.

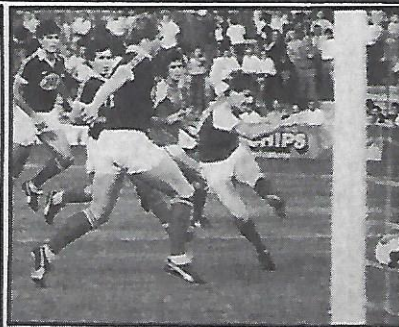
UNA INTERESSANTE PUBBLICAZIONE

A chi non l'avesse ancora acquistata, suggeriamo di acquistare una copia di "National Soccer Annual", una pubblicazione annuale del nostro giornale, che tutti i tifosi di calcio dovrebbero avere.

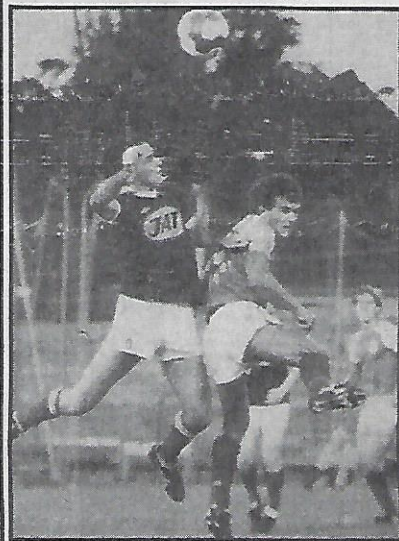
La rivista è piena zeppa di statistiche e porta tutte le classifiche del campionato nazionale dalla sua formazione e del campionato statale del Victoria sin dalla formazione della State League (1958, anno in cui il campionato fu vinto dalla Juventus), e i vincitori delle varie coppe (semifinali e finali).

Quanti ricorderanno, per esempio, che nel 1958 la Juventus, dopo aver vinto il campionato con quattro punti di distacco dalla Wilhelmina, fu battuta dalla squadra olandese per 0-2 nella finale della Dockery Cup? Quanti sapranno quante partite in nazionale ha giocato Giacometti? O quante reti ha segnato Tommy McColl in nazionale?

"National Soccer Annual" costa solo \$1.50 ed è in vendita presso le stesse edicole dove comprate "Soccer Action".



Croatia's Dave Brogan (right) scores the first of his three goals against J.U.S.T. last Saturday night. Other players pictured, from right: Vlatko Belic, Slobodan Stojcevski, Jim Davis, Steve Gojevic.



Brian O'Donnell (J.U.S.T.) and Josip Biskic (Croatia) in a heading duel during the Buffalo Summer Cup semi-final at Olympic Park last Saturday.

Sydney 'five years behind Melbourne'

"Australian soccer is 10 years behind Europe, and Sydney is five years behind Melbourne."

So says prominent Sydney soccer identity Kaz Kulak.

"Sydney led the way in soccer for so long, but now Melbourne has taken over," Kulak said.

Kulak has been promoted in his job, and so is unable to coach this year.

He has been associated in the past with Polonia, Sydney Olympic and Canterbury-Marrickville among others.

Kulak also has some very definite ideas about the national coaching job.

"If we employ a national coach only on a part-time basis, we will never go forward," he said.

He's right behind Les Scheinflug, but believes Scheinflug should be appointed full-time. "He's a tremendous person, he's a local guy, and he's got a great record," Kulak said.

Redmond a windfall

Canberra Arrows could have picked up the bargain of the year in 22-year-old English migrant Tony Redmond, a recent arrival with permanent resident status. He walked in 'off the street' so to speak, looking for a game.

And in pre-season trials the youngster has looked impressive. Big and strong, he reads a game well and could be Canberra's replacement for Terry Byrne whose career could be ended permanently after a close season tragedy.

"I've been very impressed with young Redmond," said Canberra's coach Doug Collins. "He is quick, trains hard and tackles equally hard. I think he'll make the grade in the NSL."

— PETER WINDSOR

SOCCER ACTION is published every Wednesday by Newspress Pty. Ltd., Incorporated in NSW, a Division of Age Publications, 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne 3000. P.O. Box 628E, Melbourne 3001.

Distributed in Victoria by Magdiss Pty Ltd., 250 Spencer St. Melbourne, 3000. in SA by John Fairfax and Sons Ltd. in Tasmania by The Mercury, 93 Macquarie Street, Hobart 7000. in NSW, Queensland and WA by Network Distribution Company, 54 Park Street, Sydney, 2000.

EDITOR: Laurie Schwab
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Craig MacKenzie
MANAGING EDITOR: Leonard J. Shaw
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Les Shorrocks
NEW SOUTH WALES: Gordon Durnford, The Globe Bridge Co, 64 Victoria St, North Sydney 2060. Phone: 438 2033.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Allan Taylor, Market Media Services, 79 McLaren St, Adelaide, 5000. Phone: 223 6829 or 223 6344.

PRODUCTION MANAGER: Andrew Berry
Address all correspondence to Soccer Action, 250 Spencer St. Melbourne 3000.

Printer and Publisher: Leonard John Shaw of 94 Koornalla Crescent, Mt Eliza 3030.
Printed by Waverley Offset (03-560 5111)
Proprietor: Newspress, a division of Syde Media Pty Ltd., of 250 Spencer Street, Melbourne, 3000.

"The publisher's terms and conditions are set out in its current Advertising Rate Card, which is available on request. They include an exemption clause, a monetary limitation of liability clause and an indemnity from the advertiser and any advertising agent. Advertisers and agents are advised to read the Card before placing any advertisement or series of advertisements."

6 MONTHS INTEREST FREE NOW AT TWO BIG SHOWROOMS

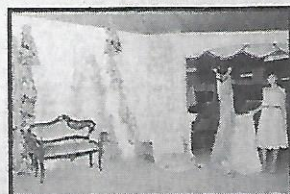
Cnr. Mahoneys & Edgars Roads, Thomastown
Tel. 460 7672, 460 5950

Monday-Wednesday 9 am-5.30 pm; Thursday
and Friday 9 am-9 pm; Saturday 9 am-1 pm

541-543 Mt Alexander Rd, Moonee Ponds.
Tel. 375 2811

Monday-Thursday 9 am-5.30 pm; Friday
9 am-9 pm; Saturday 9 am-1 pm

CURTAINS — CARPETS — FURNITURE — BEDS



IT'S CUP-FINAL NIGHT !!!



**THIS SATURDAY FEB. 25
AT OLYMPIC PARK**

Curtain-raiser at 6.30 pm

Challenge match GEORGE CROSS v JUVENTUS

followed by THE BUFFALO GOLD SUMMER CUP-FINAL

MELBOURNE CROATIA v SOUTH MELBOURNE
at 8 pm



**THE VSF TRAVEL CLUB,
IN ASSOCIATION WITH T.A.A.**
has sponsored the Player of the Series
Award, plus a trip to Wrest Point
Casino for two.

Winner to be announced after the Final



Admission Adults \$6.00, Pensioners \$2.00, Children Free